

HIKARU



SHONEN JUMP MANGA

Story by **Yumi Hotta** Art by **Takeshi Obata**
Supervised by **Yukari Umezawa (5 Dan)**

volume

7

A PERFECT LOSING STREAK
IN THE BATTLES AGAINST DROWSINESS



Yumi Hotta

I asked professional Go player Yukari Umezawa, who seems very busy, how much sleep she gets on average. I was surprised by her answer—eight hours! Yippee! She's just like me!
—Yumi Hotta

It all began when Yumi Hotta played a pick-up game of Go with her father-in-law. As she was learning how to play, Ms. Hotta thought it might be fun to create a story around the traditional board game. More confident in her storytelling abilities than her drawing skills, she submitted the beginnings of **Hikaru no Go** to **Weekly Shonen Jump's** Story King Award. The Story King Award is an award that picks the best story, manga, character design and youth (under 15) manga submissions every year in Japan. As fate would have it, Ms. Hotta's story (originally named, "**Kokonotsu no Hoshi**"), was a runner-up in the "Story" category of the Story King Award. Many years earlier, Takeshi Obata was a runner-up for the Tezuka Award, another Japanese manga contest sponsored by **Weekly Shonen Jump** and **Monthly Shonen Jump**. An editor assigned to Mr. Obata's artwork came upon Ms. Hotta's story and paired the two for a full-fledged manga about Go. The rest is modern Go history.

HIKARU NO GO VOL. 7
SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition

This manga contains material that was originally published in English from
SHONEN JUMP #38 to #42.

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Publisher/Hyoe Narita

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Printed in the U.S.A.

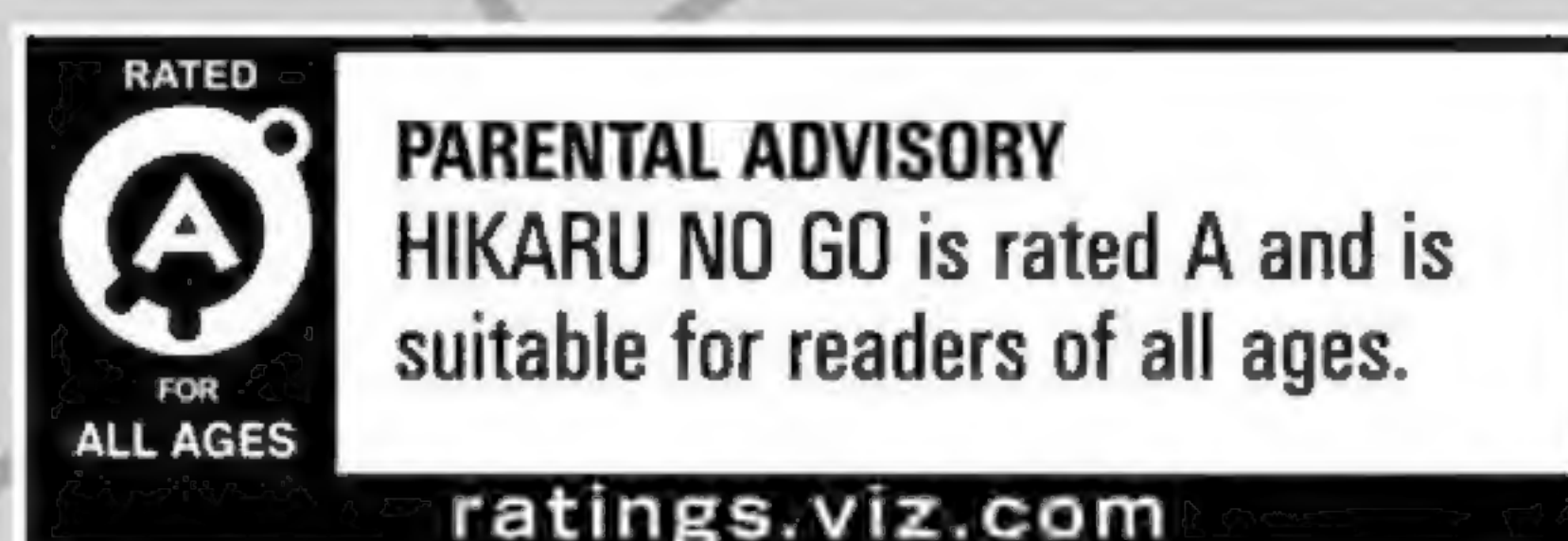
Published by VIZ Media, LLC
P.O. Box 77010
San Francisco, CA 94107

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3

First printing, July 2006
Third printing, May 2009



www.viz.com





7

**THE
YOUNG LIONS
TOURNAMENT**

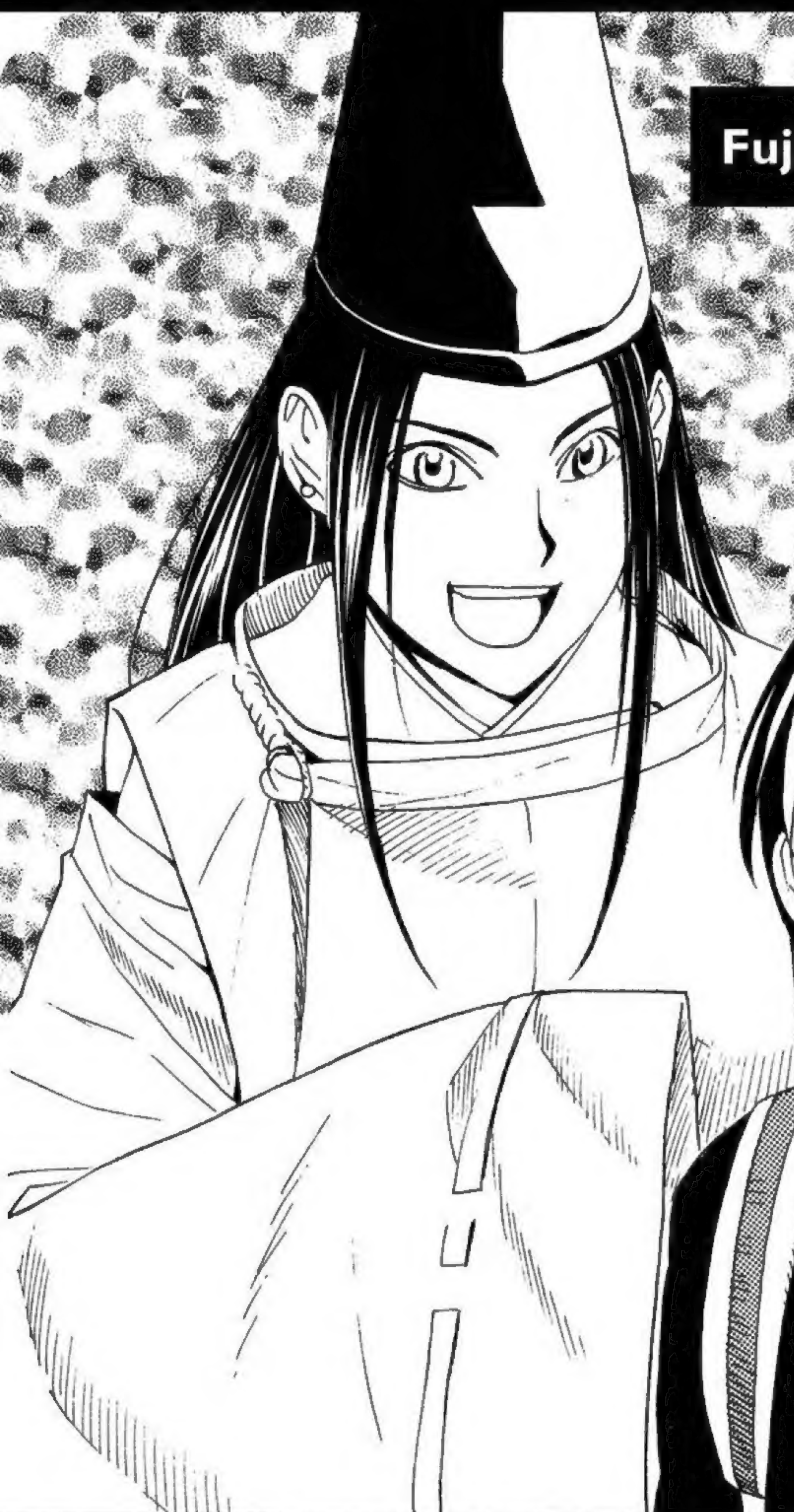
STORY BY
YUMI HOTTA

ART BY
TAKESHI OBATA

Supervised by
YUKARI UMEZAWA
(5 Dan)



Fujiwara-no-Sai



Hikaru Shindo

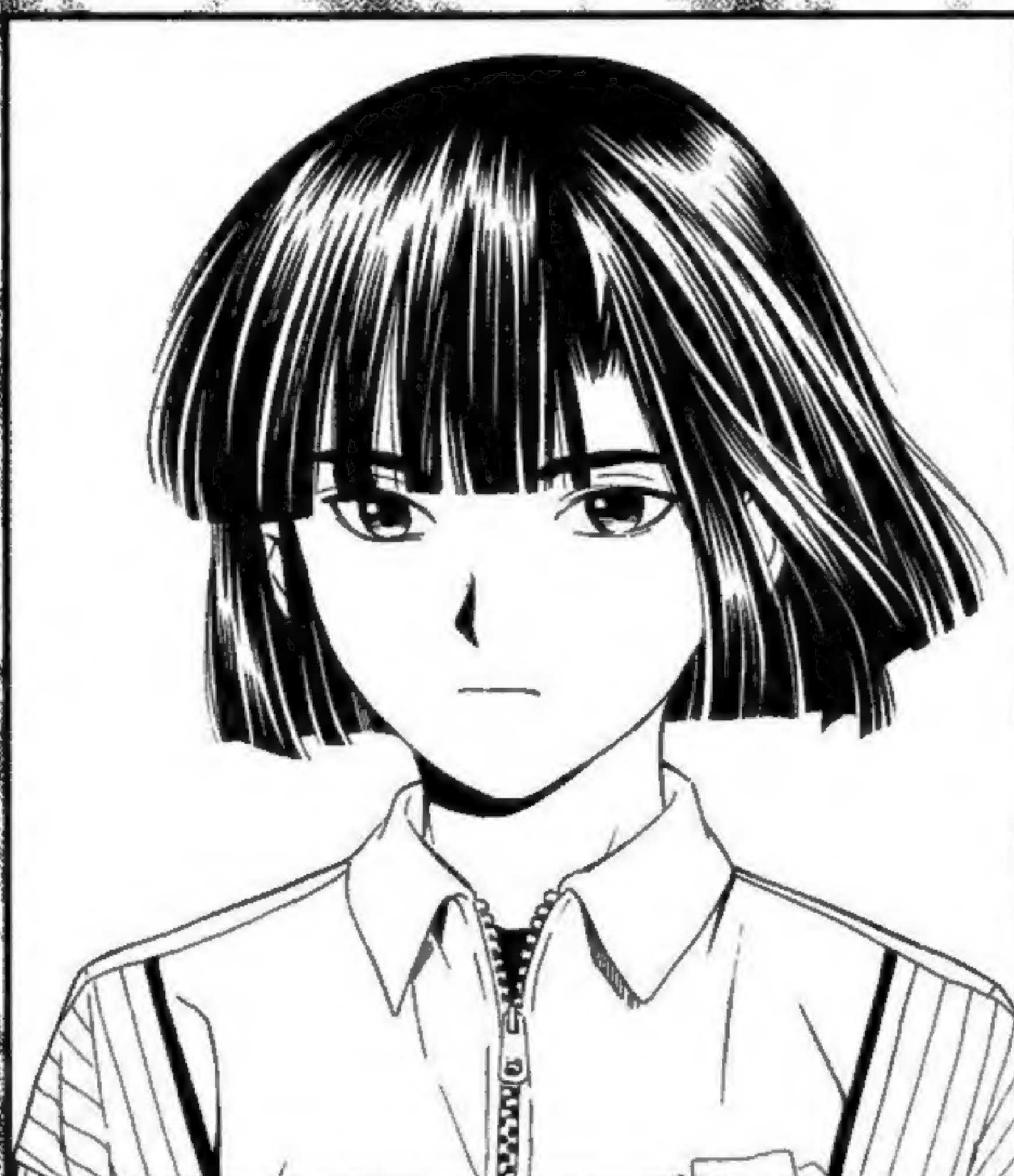


● **C h a r a c t e r s** ●
I n t r o d u c t i o n s

Toya Meijin



Akira Toya



Ogata 9 Dan

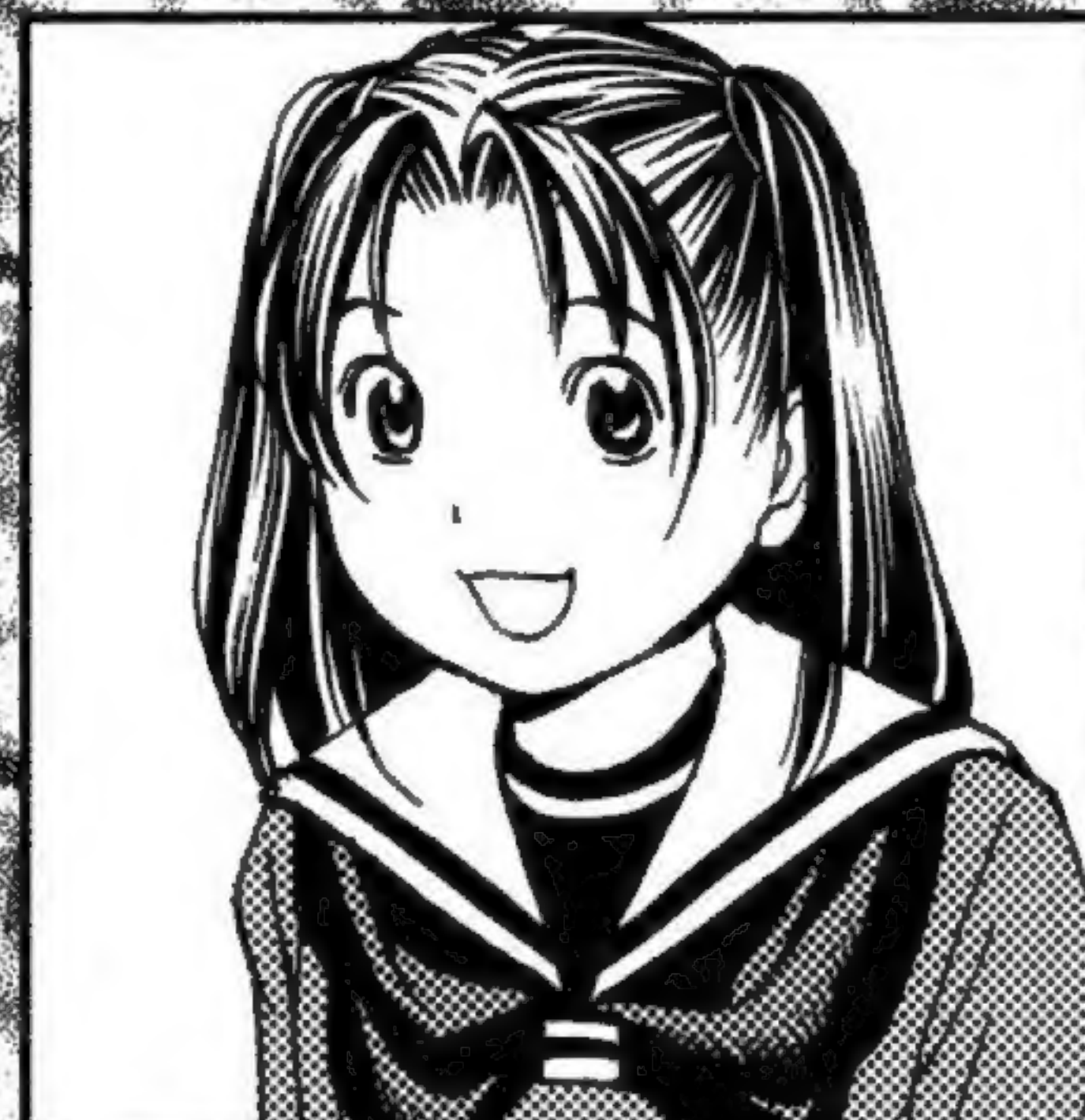




Yoshitaka Waya



Fuku



Akari Fujisaki



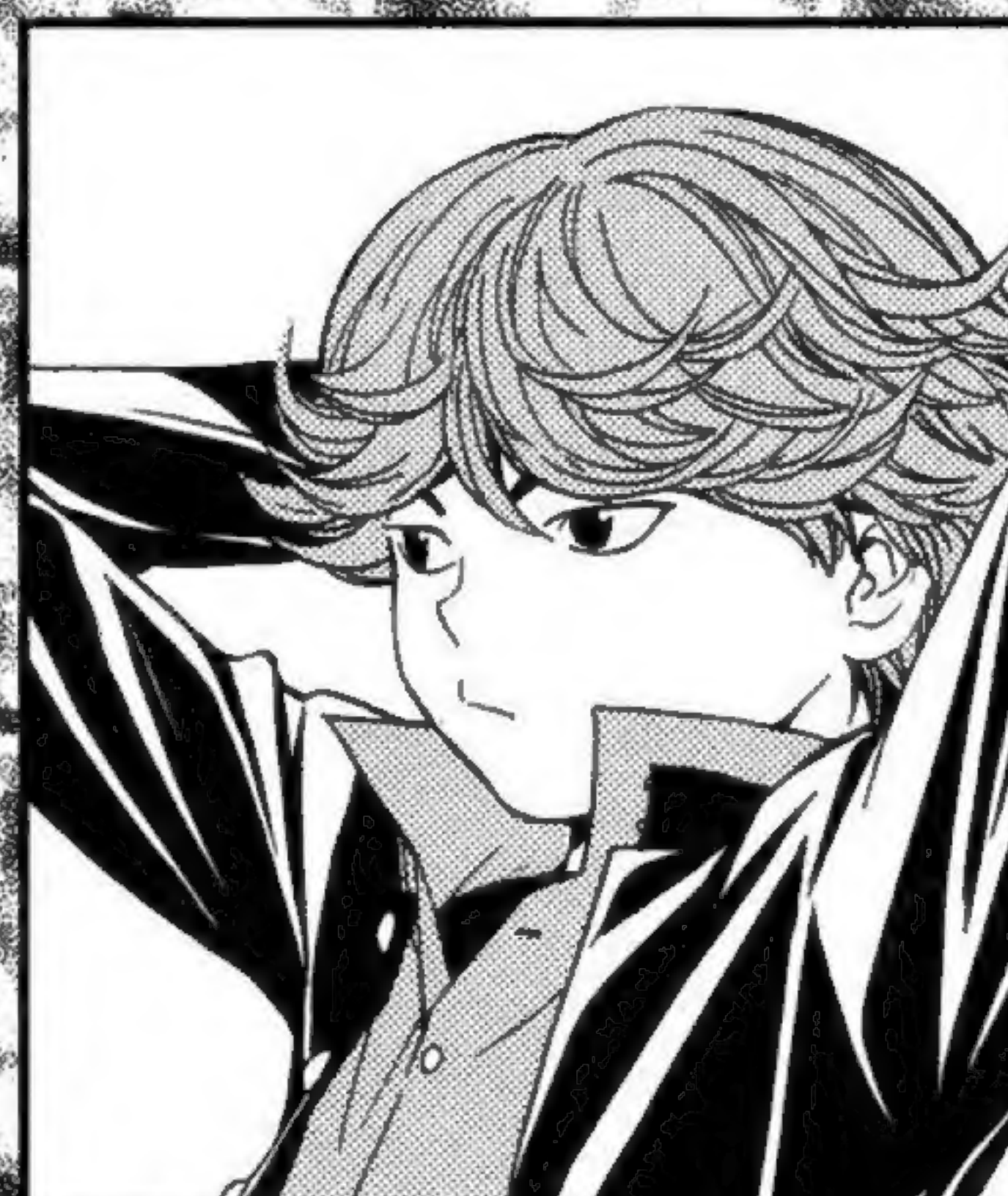
Shirakawa 7 Dan



Shinichiro Isumi



Ochi



Yuki Mitani

Story Thus Far

One day, Hikaru, a sixth grader, discovers an old Go board in his grandfather's attic. The instant Hikaru touches the board, the spirit of Fujiwara-no-Sai, a genius Go player from Japan's Heian Era, enters Hikaru's consciousness. Inspired by Sai's love of Go, and by his encounter with the prodigy Akira Toya (son of Go master Toya Meijin), Hikaru is slowly drawn to the game.

Hikaru decides to take the insei exam so he can catch up to Akira. On the day of the exam, however, Hikaru is nervous and things don't go well. But the instructor reviews the game records of Hikaru's three simultaneous games, sees the boy's true potential, and lets him join the insei. When Hikaru checks out the insei study room, he blurts out that he is Akira Toya's one and only rival and puts everyone on the defensive. Still, he manages to make friends with two insei — Waya and Isumi. Meanwhile, Akira debuts as a rookie pro in the Shinshodan Series, and his opponent is the holder of the Oza title. Akira goes all out in his game to show Hikaru that they're not in the same league. Back at Haze Middle School, things have quieted down at Hikaru's old Go club while the students wait for Yuki to come back.

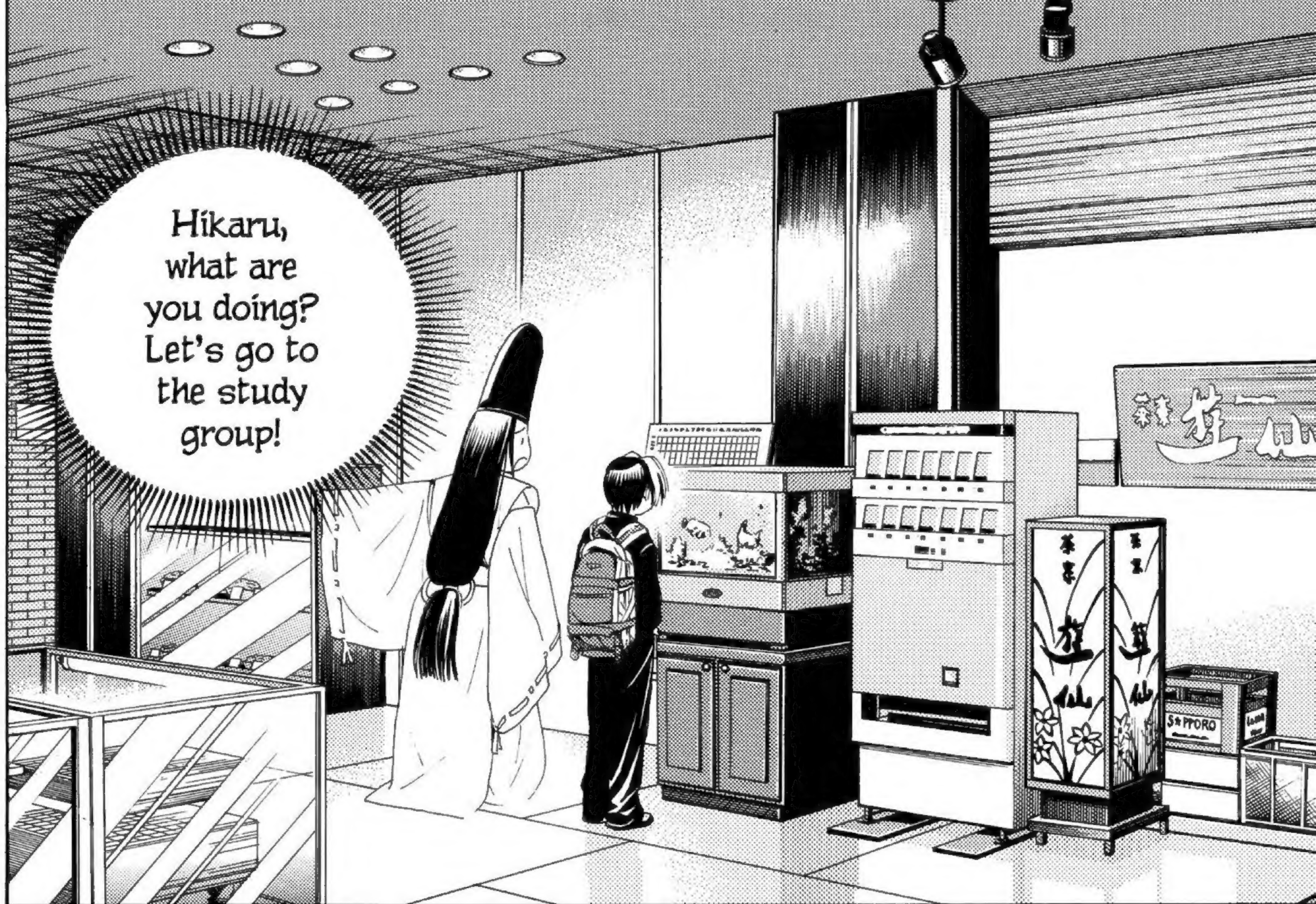
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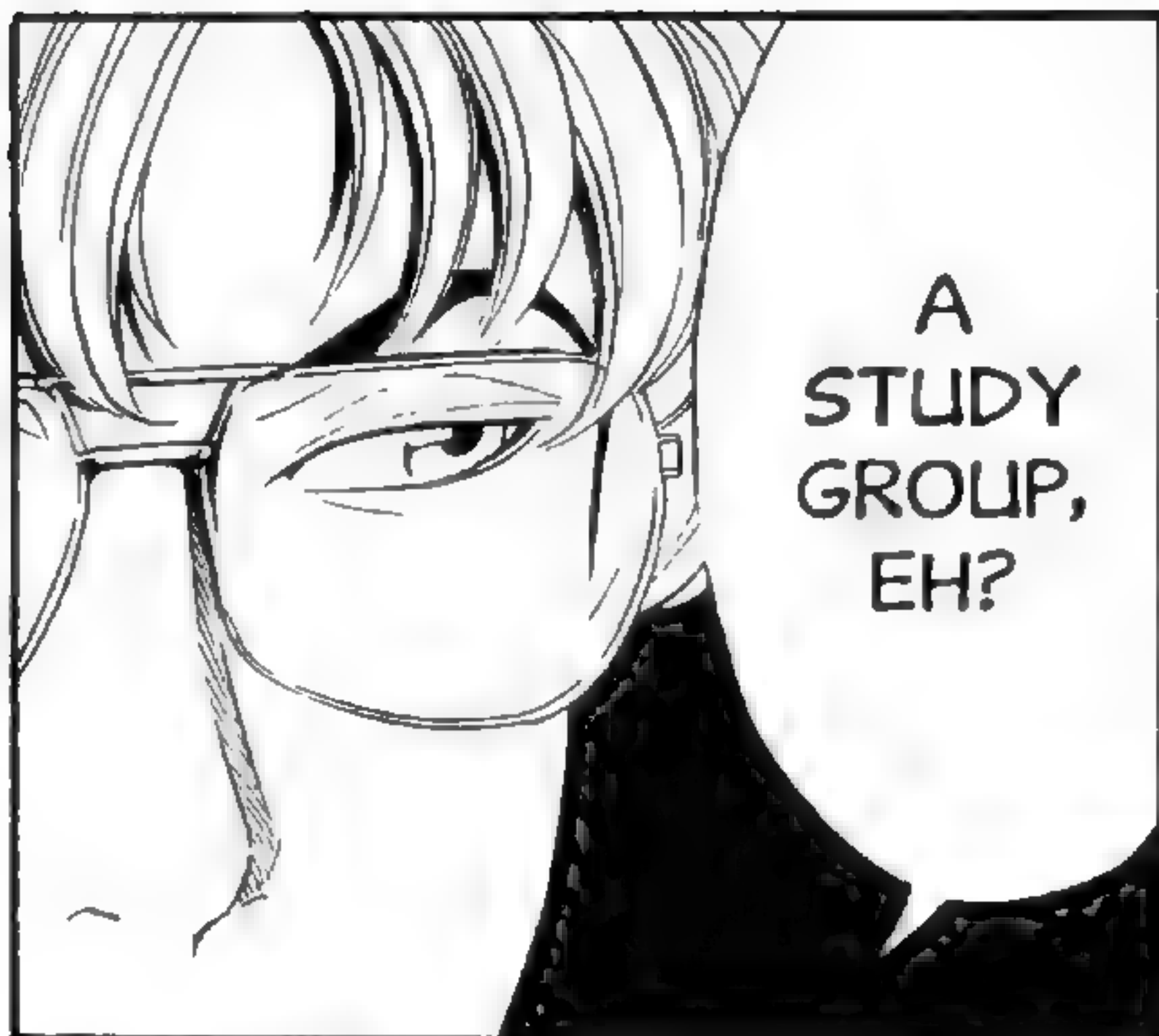
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Game 52 "Two Study Groups"





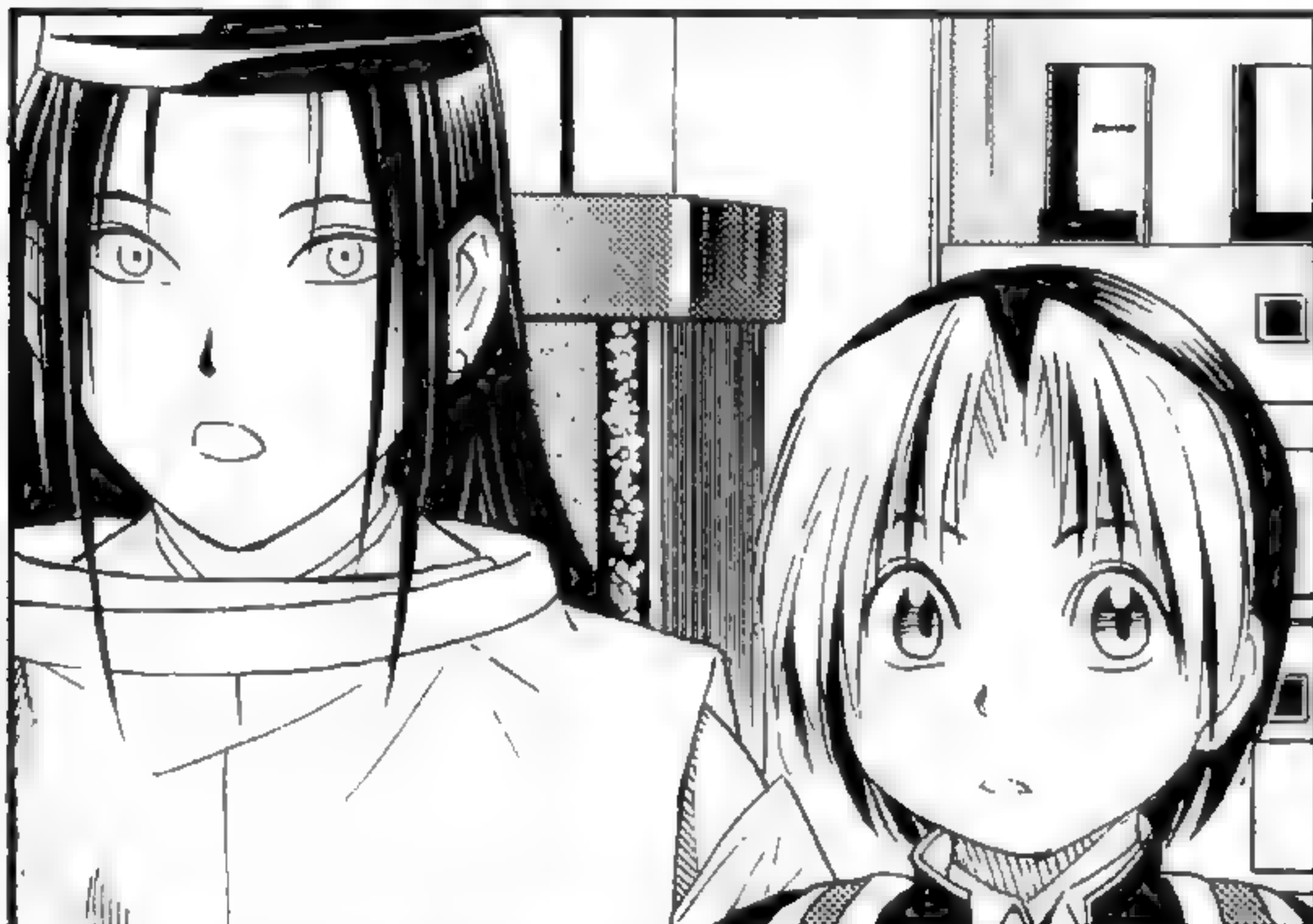


A
STUDY
GROUP,
EH?

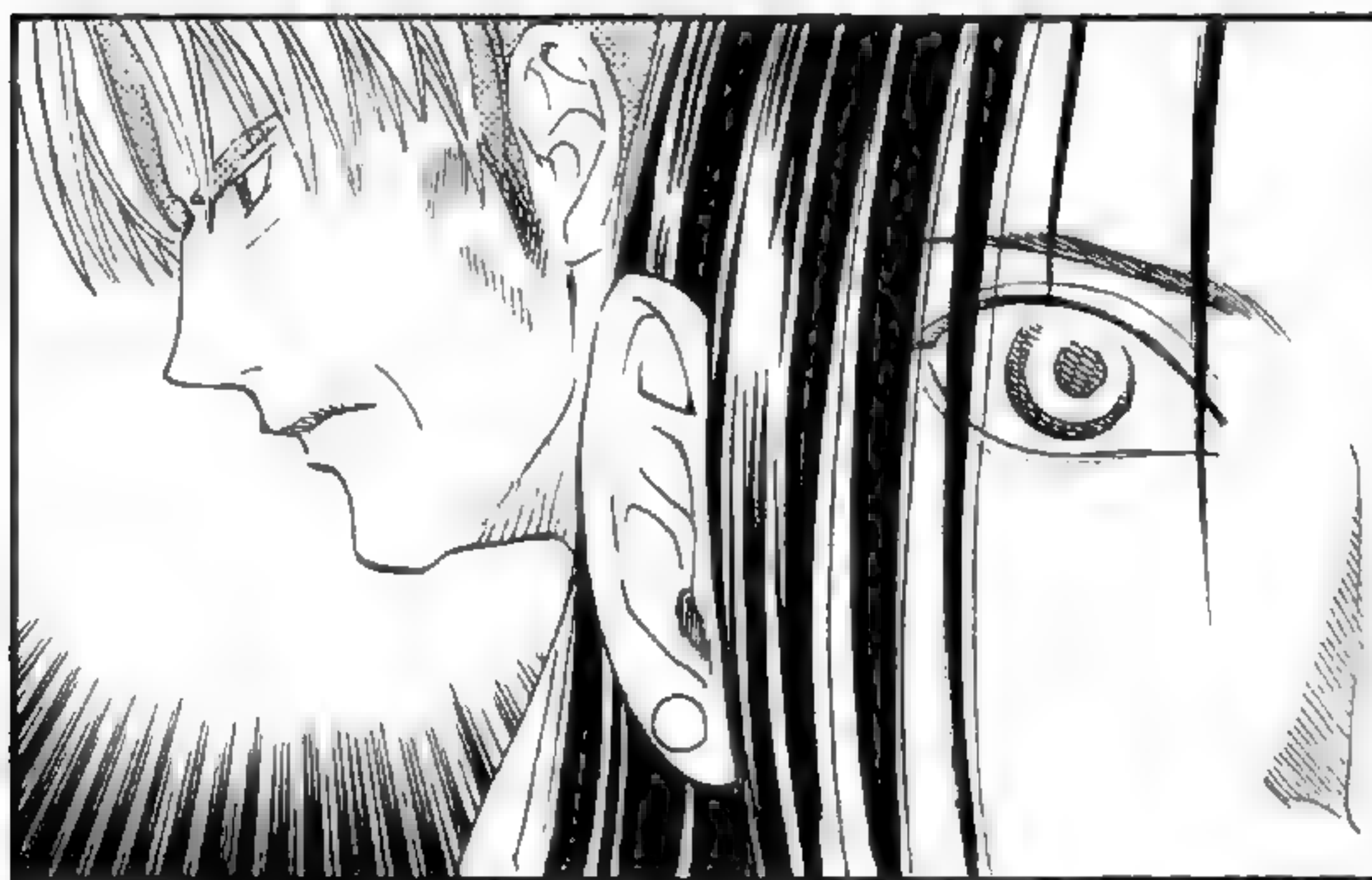


UMM...
THANK
YOU FOR
GETTING
ME INTO
THE
INSEI
EXAM.

YOU'RE
RIGHT.



WHY
DON'T
YOU COME
TO TOYA
MEIJIN'S
STUDY
GROUP?



WE
PLAY SOME
GAMES, BUT
MOSTLY WE
ANALYZE
THEM.

I... UH...
DON'T
REALLY
KNOW
WHAT GOES
ON AT A
STUDY
GROUP.

Does
he mean
the Toya
Meijin?!



AND WE
GET TO HEAR
HOW TOYA
MEIJIN PLAYS
AND THINKS
THROUGH HIS
GAMES.

WE ALSO GO
OVER GAME
RECORDS
OF TITLE
MATCHES
AND SUCH.



HE DOES.
I THINK
YOU'LL BE
A GOOD
INFLUENCE
ON EACH
OTHER.



DOES
HE GO,
TOO?

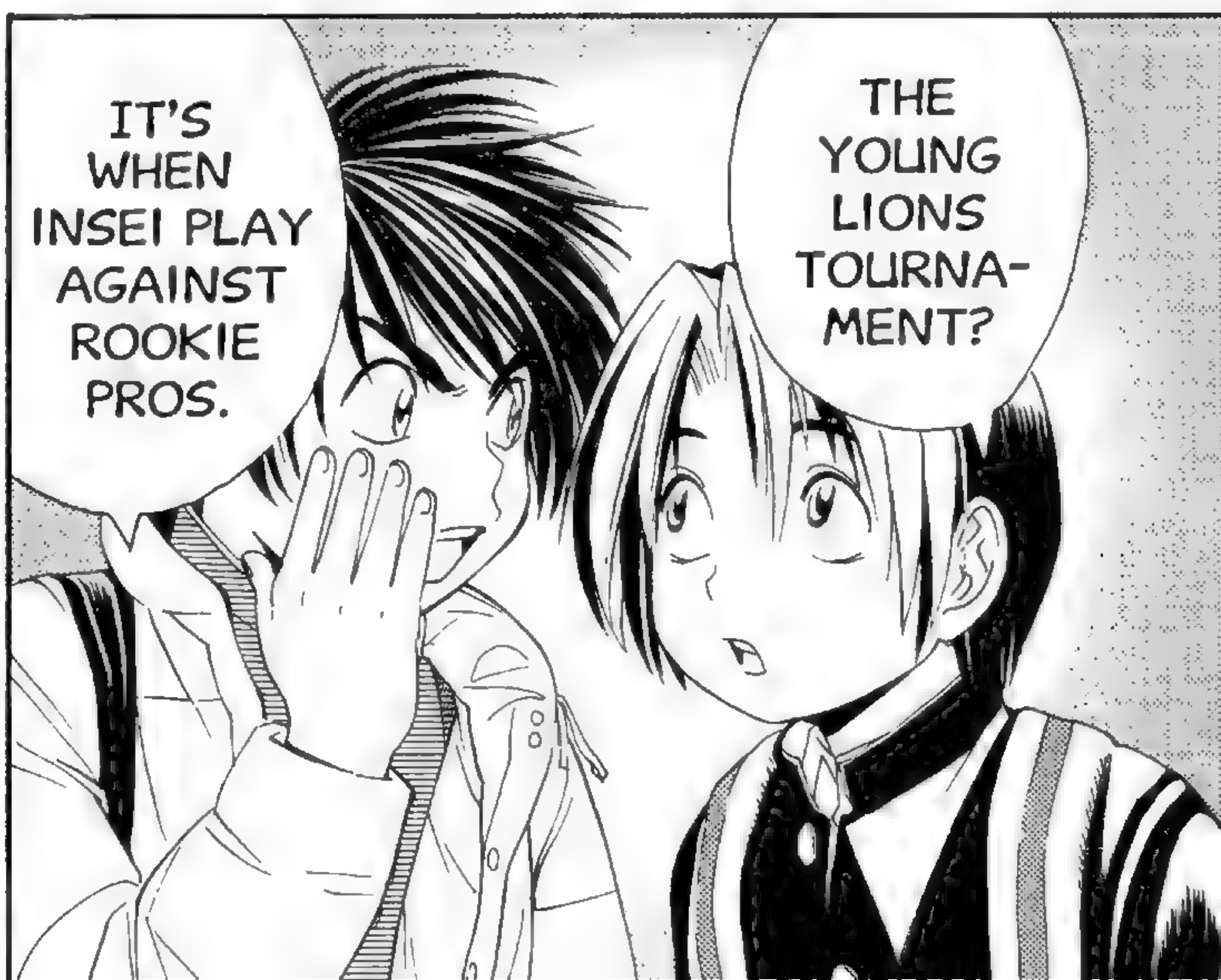
WILL
AKIRA
TOYA
BE
THERE?



Let's go,
Hikaru!









I MIGHT
GET TO
PLAY
AGAINST
HIM!

AKIRA
WILL BE
THERE!



YOU'LL QUALIFY FOR
THE TOURNAMENT,
WON'T YOU?



...I'LL BE
THERE
TO
WATCH.

IF YOU
DO PLAY
AKIRA...

TMP



I'LL BE
THERE!

OF
COURSE!



...YOU
HAVE
TO BE AT
LEAST
16TH IN
A LEAGUE
TO BE IN
IT?

DO YOU
REALIZE...

YAHOO!

THE
YOUNG
LIONS
TOURNA-
MENT!
COOL!



I
PLAYED
IN IT
LAST
YEAR.

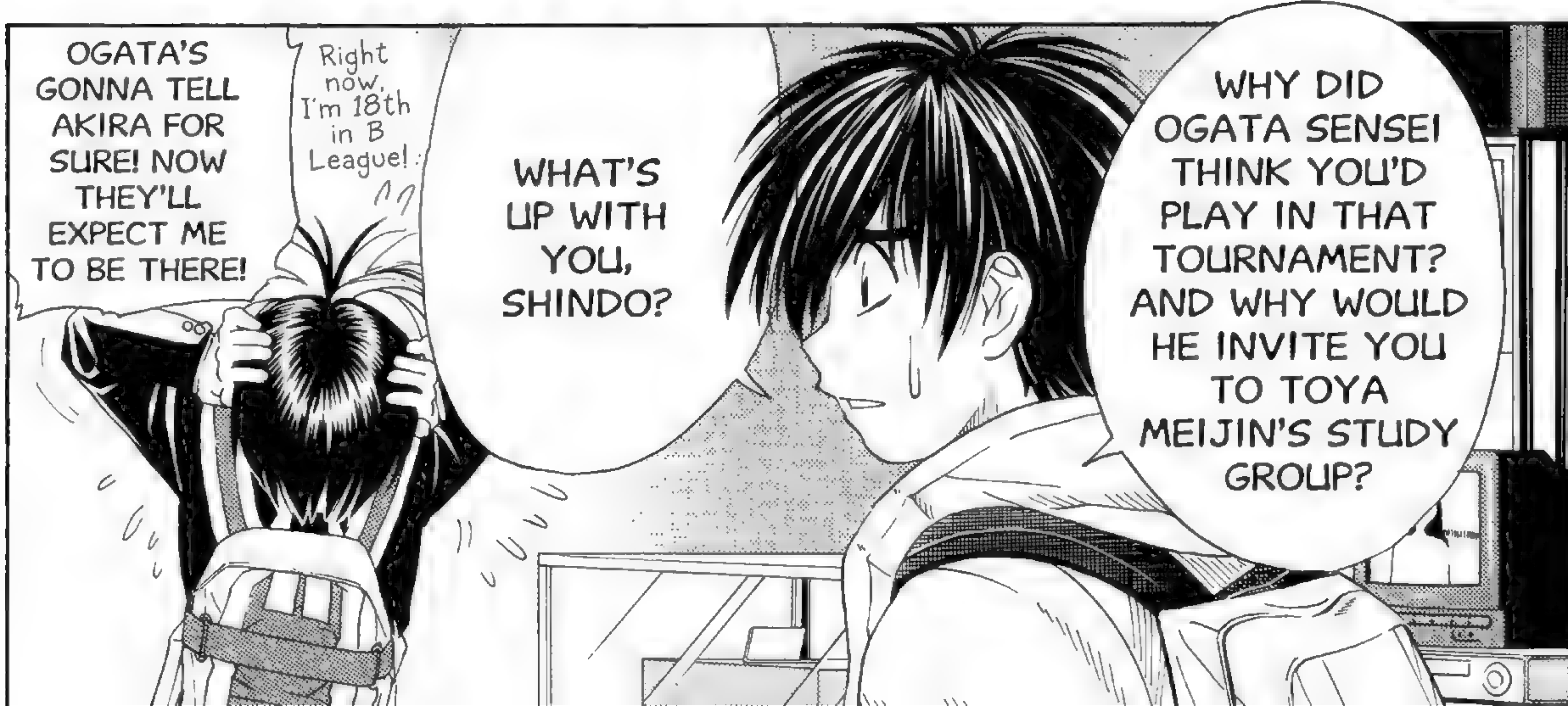
And
I'll be in
it this
year!

THE TOP 16
PLAYERS IN
A LEAGUE
AT THE
START OF
MAY WILL
PLAY
AGAINST
16 ROOKIE
PROS.



...IN
A LEAGUE
?!

SIXTEENTH...

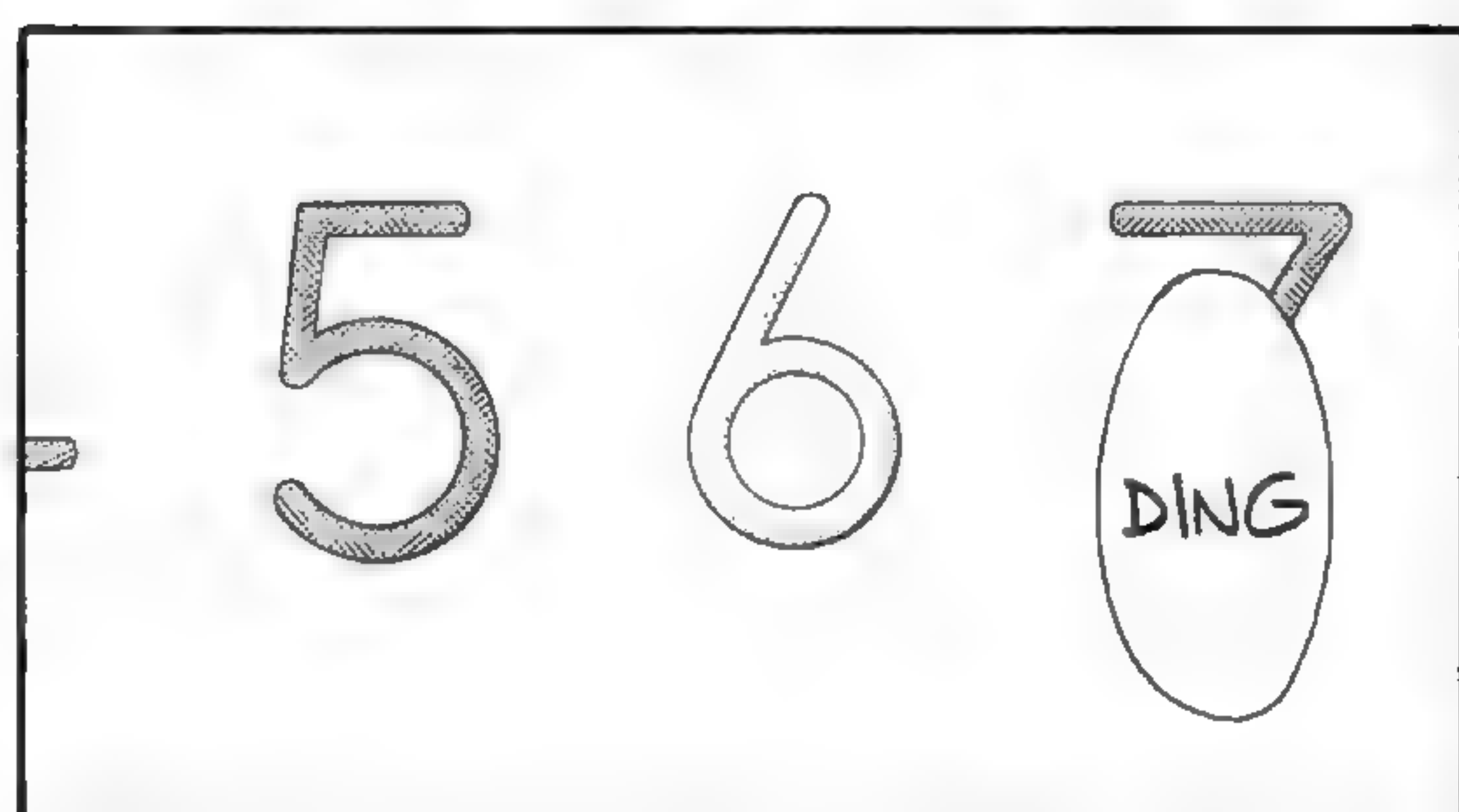


OGATA'S
GONNA TELL
AKIRA FOR
SURE! NOW
THEY'LL
EXPECT ME
TO BE THERE!

Right
now,
I'm 18th
in B
League!

WHAT'S
UP WITH
YOU,
SHINDO?

WHY DID
OGATA SENSEI
THINK YOU'D
PLAY IN THAT
TOURNAMENT?
AND WHY WOULD
HE INVITE YOU
TO TOYA
MEIJIN'S STUDY
GROUP?









DO YOU
KNOW
SHIRA-
KAWA
SENSEI?

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE?



YES.

WAYA, IS
THIS THE
INSEI YOU
TOLD ME
ABOUT?



HE WAS
A GO
STUDENT
OF MINE.

WHO'S
THIS?



HEH
HEH

DIDN'T
AKARI
TELL
YOU?

INSEI?
YOU'RE AN
INSEI?!









BUT IT'S ALWAYS AN INSEI AGAINST A PRO IN THE FIRST ROUND. IT'LL BE A TOUGH GAME.

HMPH...

HA
HA
HA

WAYA, YOU JUST THINK ABOUT WINNING YOUR GAME IN THE FIRST ROUND. IGNORE ANY THOUGHTS YOU MIGHT HAVE ABOUT AKIRA TOYA.



YOU STILL HAVE THREE MONTHS! YOU CAN DO IT!



HEY! YOU'RE STILL IN B LEAGUE! YOU CAN'T LAUGH AT ME!


HA HA!



DON'T WORRY. YOU'LL IMPROVE WHEN THE TIME'S RIGHT FOR YOU.



YEAH!




YOU'LL
LOSE YOUR
EDGE IF
YOU PLAY
AGAINST
AN INSEI.

SHIRAKAWA,
YOU'VE GOT
YOUR THIRD-
ROUND GAME
IN THE JUDAN
TOURNAMENT
LATER THIS
WEEK.




SHALL
WE PLAY
A GAME,
HIKARU?



I KNOW HOW
IMPORTANT THE
GAME IS. I'M
HOPING SOME
OF HIKARU'S
FIGHTING SPIRIT
WILL RUB OFF
ON ME.



RIGHT?



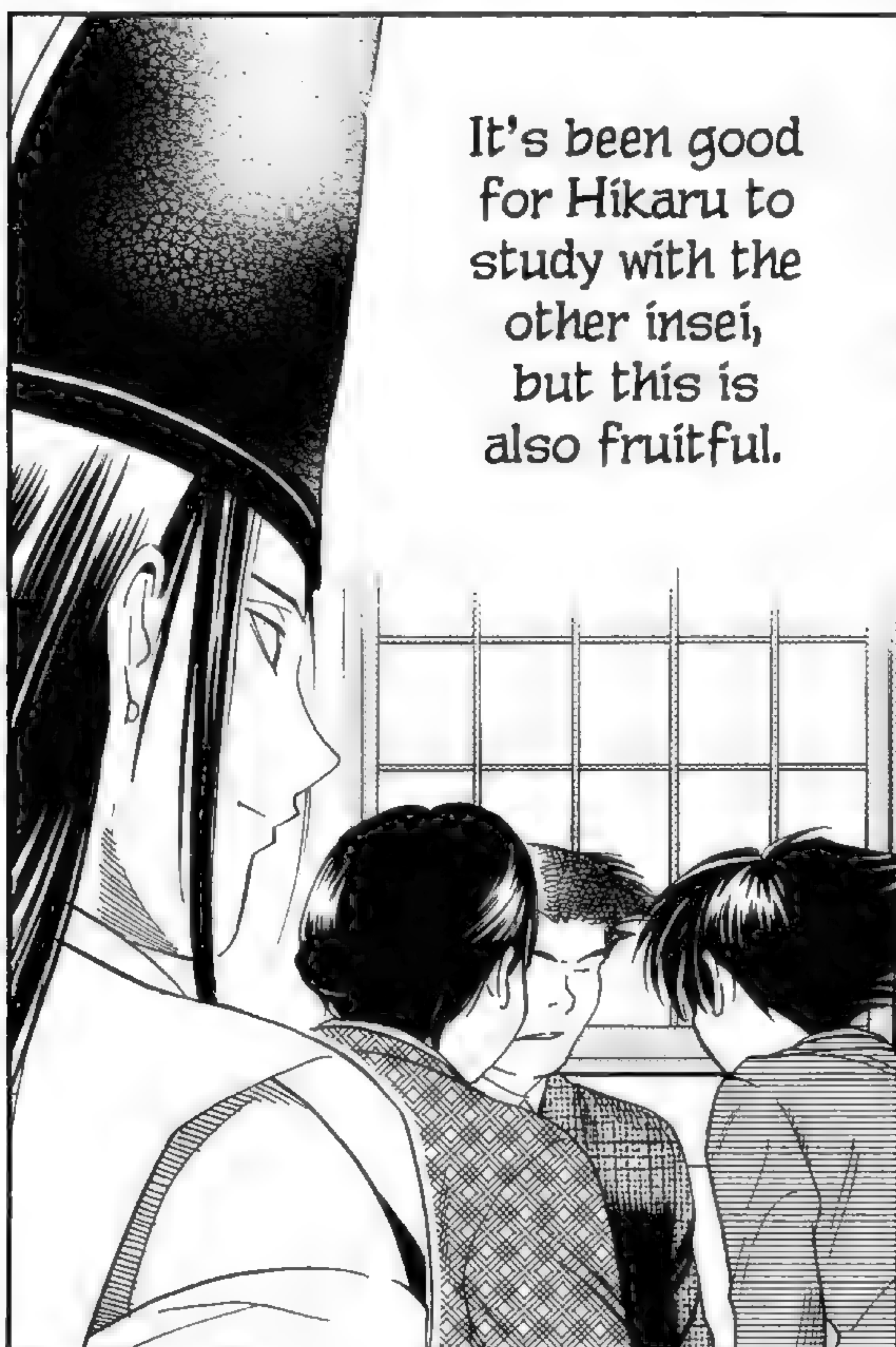
I MEAN,
IT'S ALL
OVER IF
YOU LOSE
YOUR
SPIRIT.



OKAY!

AND THIS
WON'T BE A
TEACHING
GAME.

SO,
LET'S
PLAY.



It's been good
for Hikaru to
study with the
other insei,
but this is
also fruitful.



S
H
F
F

But
here,
Hikaru
can
learn
how
to be
strong
mentally.

I can teach
Hikaru all
manner of
technical
knowledge.

And in doing
so he takes
another step
toward
becoming a
professional
go player.

.....

One step
closer...

...to
him.

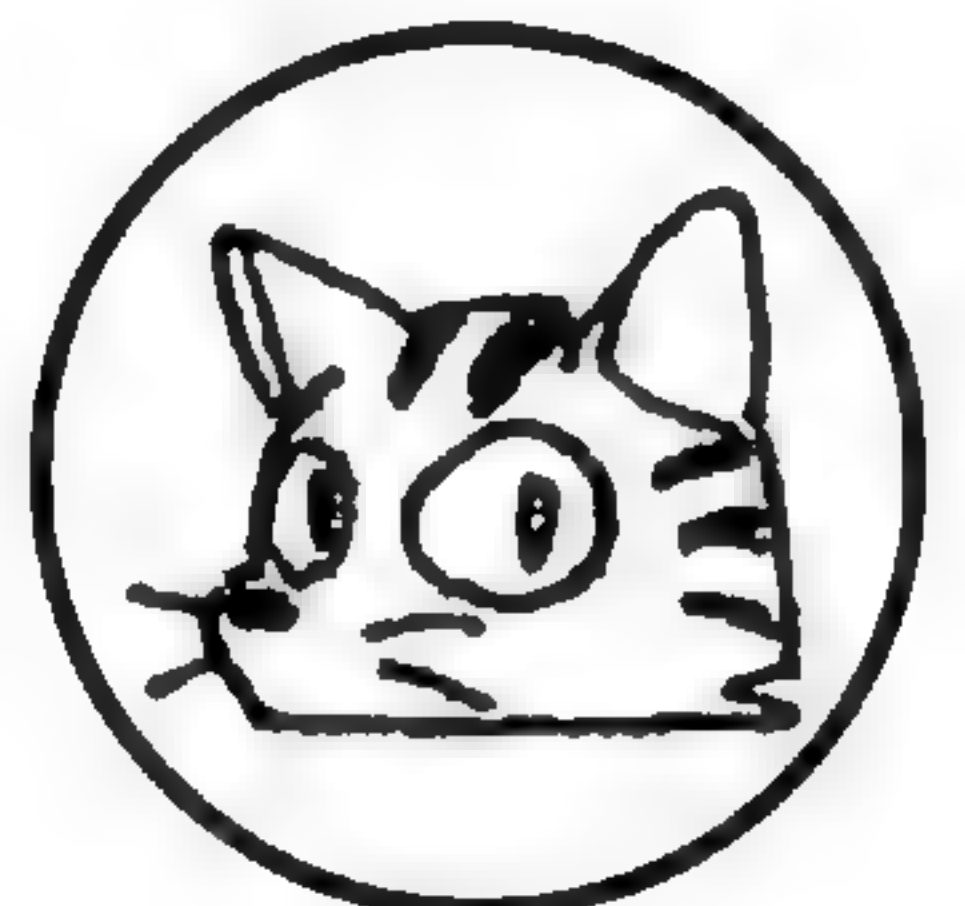
A WORD ABOUT HIKARU NO GO

BECOMING A PRO



THERE ACTUALLY ARE PEOPLE WHO WENT ON TO BECOME PROFESSIONAL GO PLAYERS ONLY TWO YEARS AFTER THEY BEGAN PLAYING. SOME HAVE DONE IT IN THREE YEARS. THE AGE LIMIT FOR TURNING PRO IS 30 YEARS OF AGE.

THAT'S RIGHT! YOU STILL HAVE A CHANCE TO GO PRO!



TITLE HOLDERS
HIGH UP IN THE
CLOUDS

TOYA MEIJIN



The
Divine
Move



The
Divine
Move

The
Divine
Move

FUJIWARA-
NO-SAI

PROFESSIONAL
PLAYERS

Game 53
"Cause for
Concern"

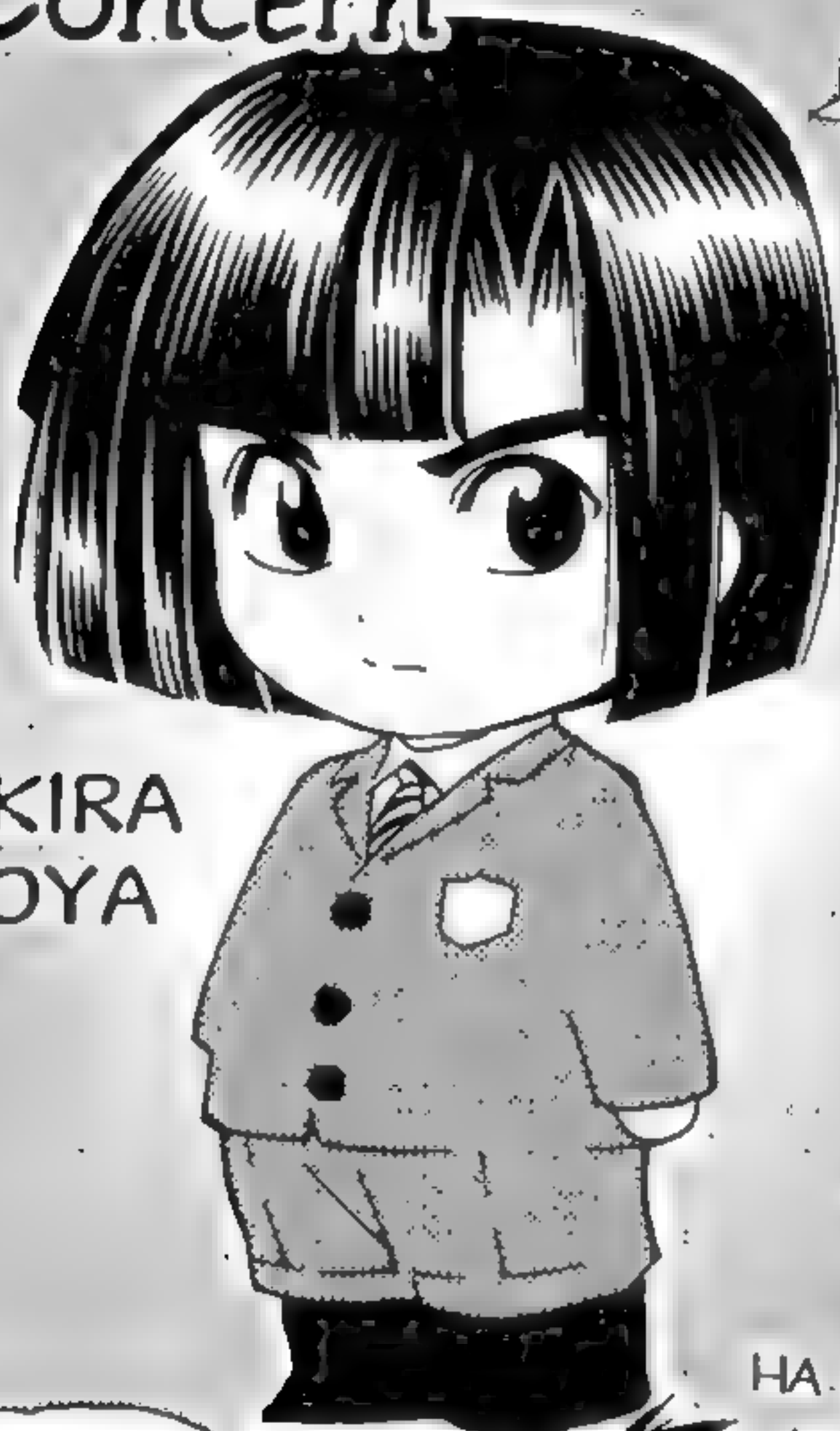


GRNCH

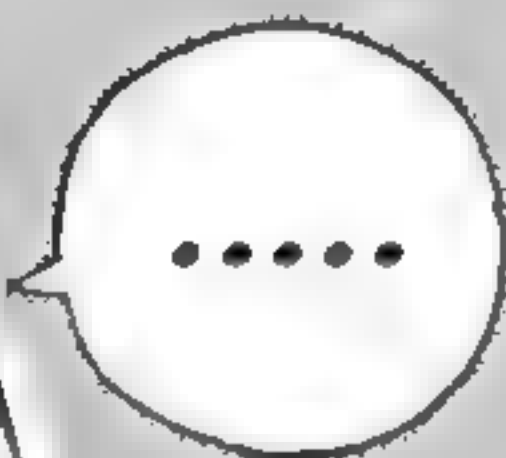
ZAMA OZA



OGATA
9 DAN



AKIRA
TOYA



SHIRAKAWA
7 DAN

JUST YOU
WAIT, AKIRA! I'LL
PLAY YOU AT THE
YOUNG LIONS
TOURNAMENT!

YOU HAVE
TO BE 16TH
OR ABOVE IN
A LEAGUE
TO PLAY.



WAYA



ISUMI FUKU

(A LEAGUE)

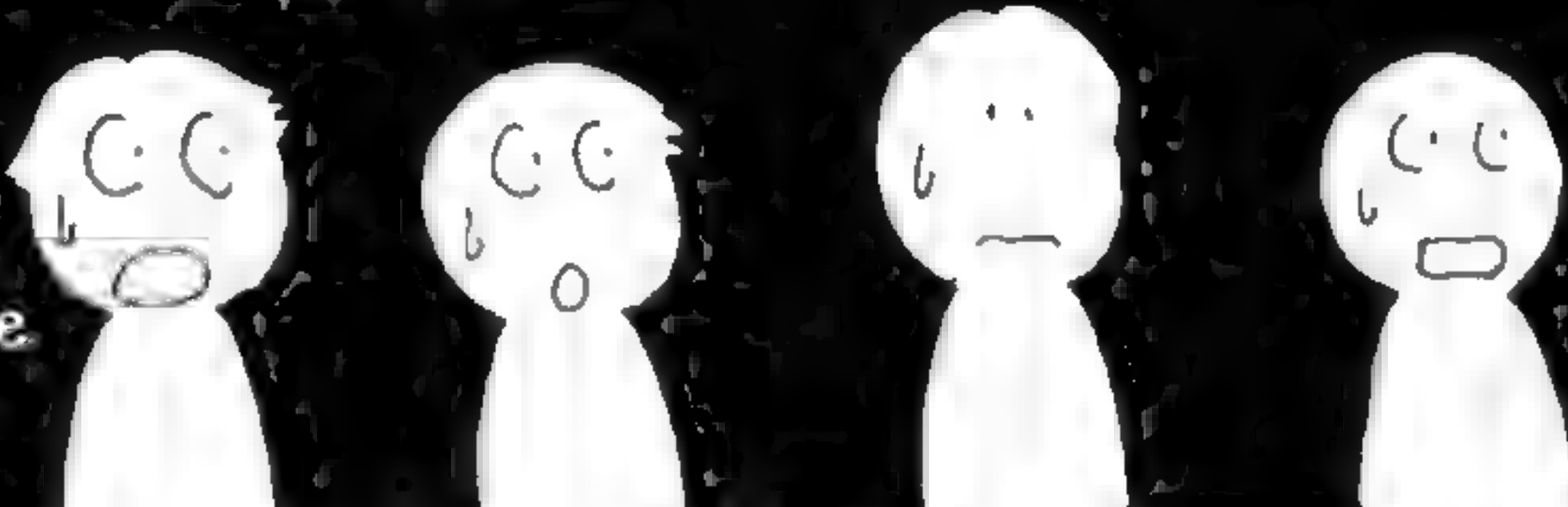
(B LEAGUE)



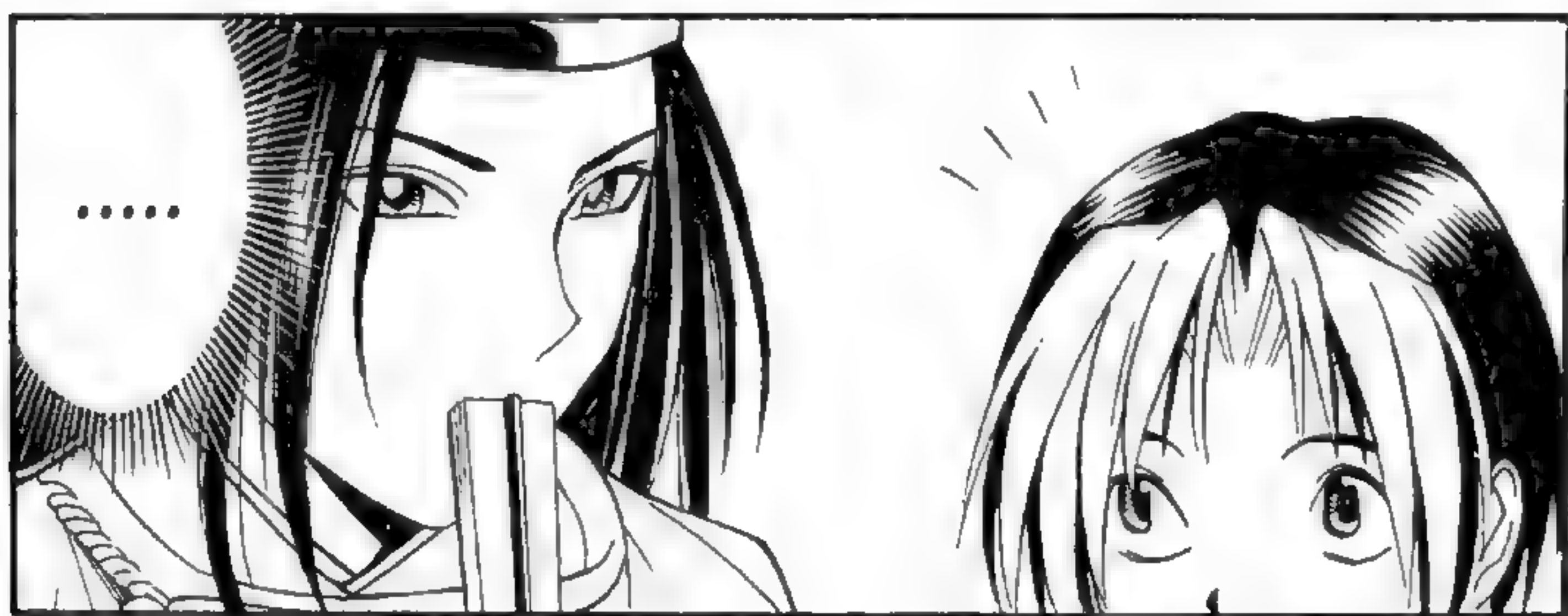
OCHI

INSEI

Shindo,
you're
still in
B League



HIKARU SHINDO





Really,
Hikaru?

BUT HANG
IN THERE.
YOU'LL
HAVE
YOUR
TURN
SOON.



Once?
If I only
have one
chance...

ER...
WELL, NO
GUARANTEES,
BUT I THINK
YOU'LL BE
ABLE TO PLAY
AT LEAST
ONCE.



...then I
would like
to play
against
him.



NOD
NOD

YOU
MEAN
AKIRA'S
FATHER?



NO,
I'M
NOT
SAYING
I
WON'T,
BUT—

BUT
SAI, I
CAN'T—



.....



Hikaru, you
are becoming
a pro one step
at a time. And,
step by step,
you are moving
toward him.

.....



I'M JUST
BEING
SELFISH.

I'VE
GOT TO DO
SOMETHING
FOR HIM
SOON.

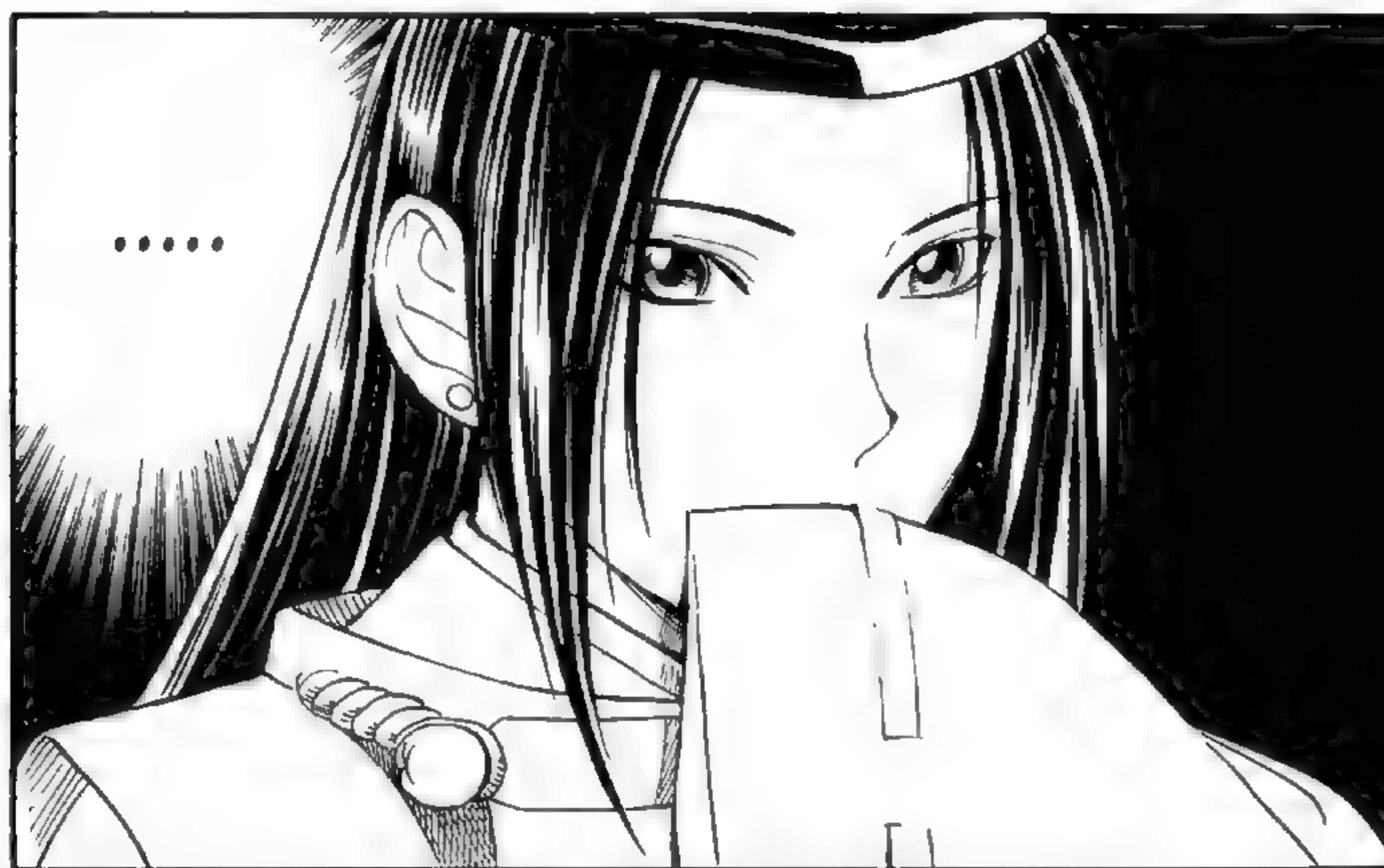


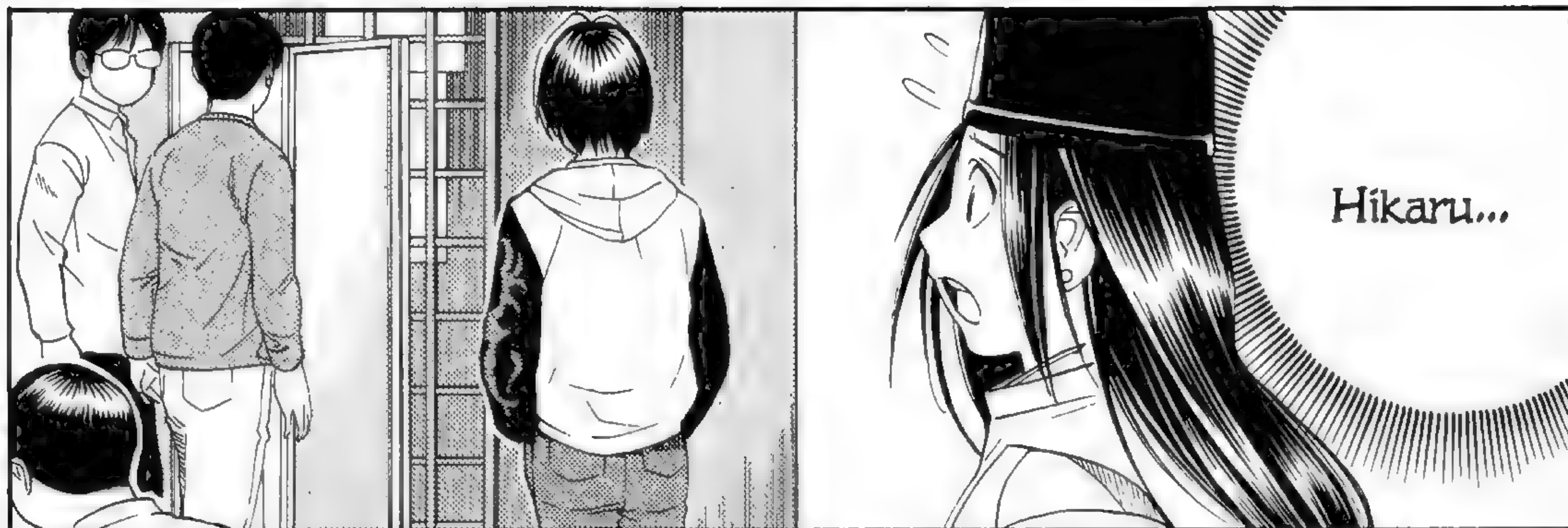
I'm sorry,
Hikaru.



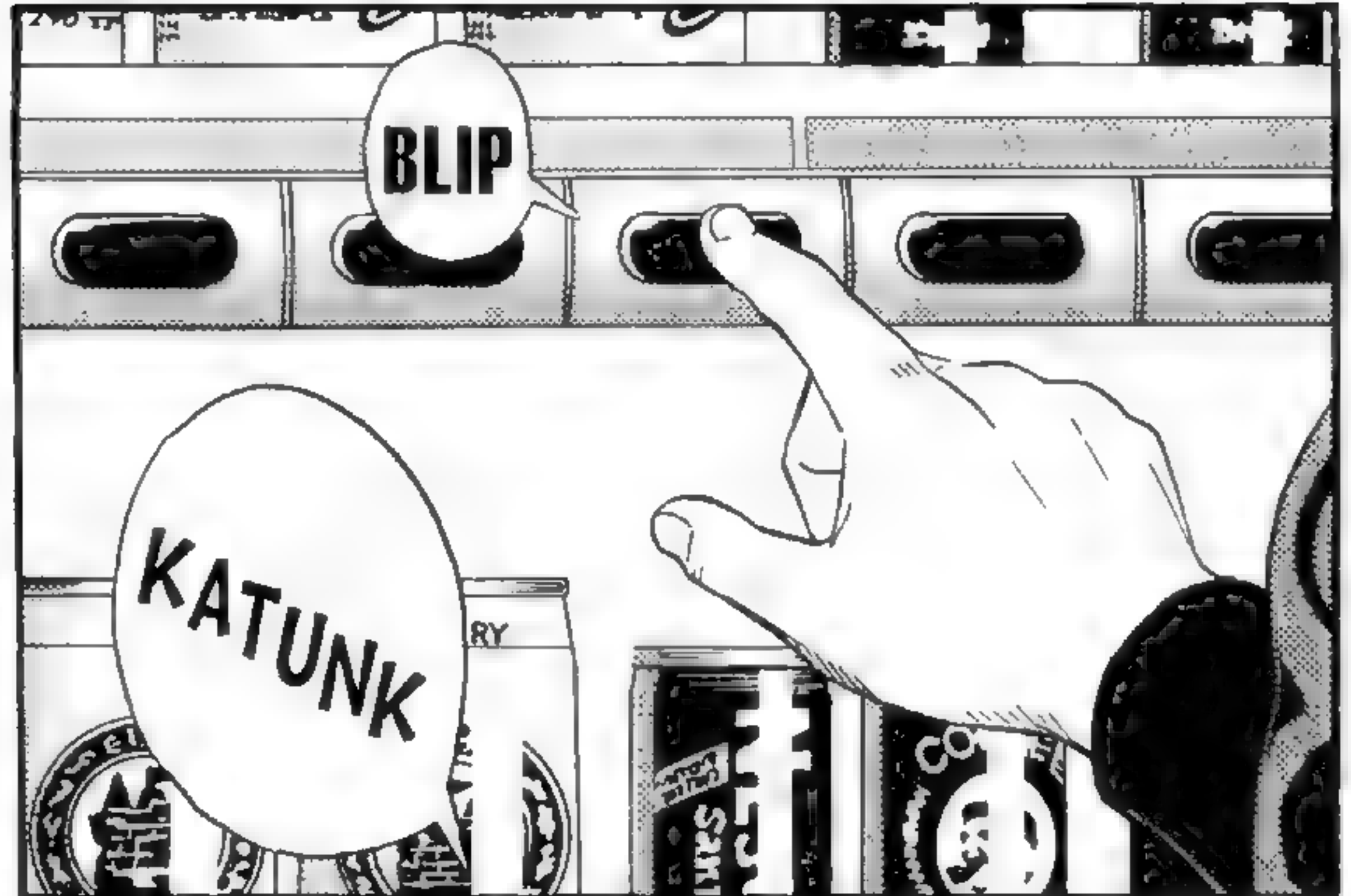
.....















THAT'S RIGHT. I JUST NEED TO WIN ONCE, AND THEN I CAN GET MY HEAD ON STRAIGHT.



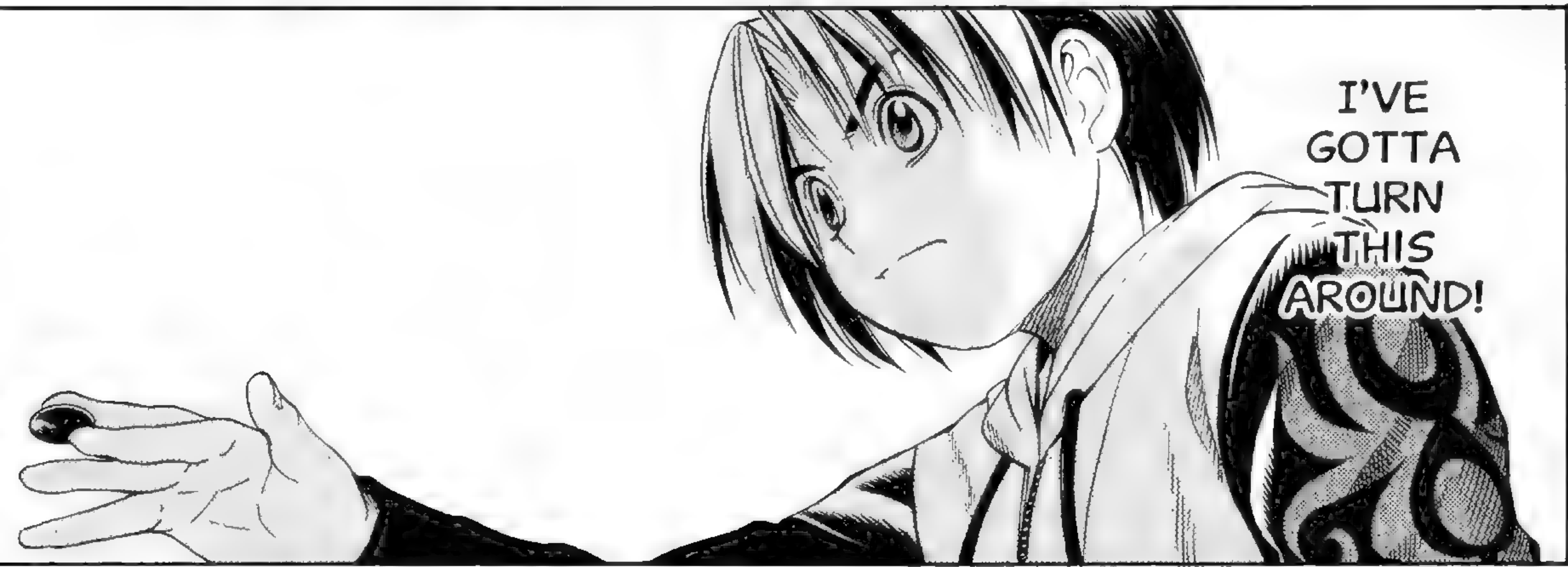
HMPH

JUST GET IN A WIN, AND YOU'LL FEEL A LOT BETTER.

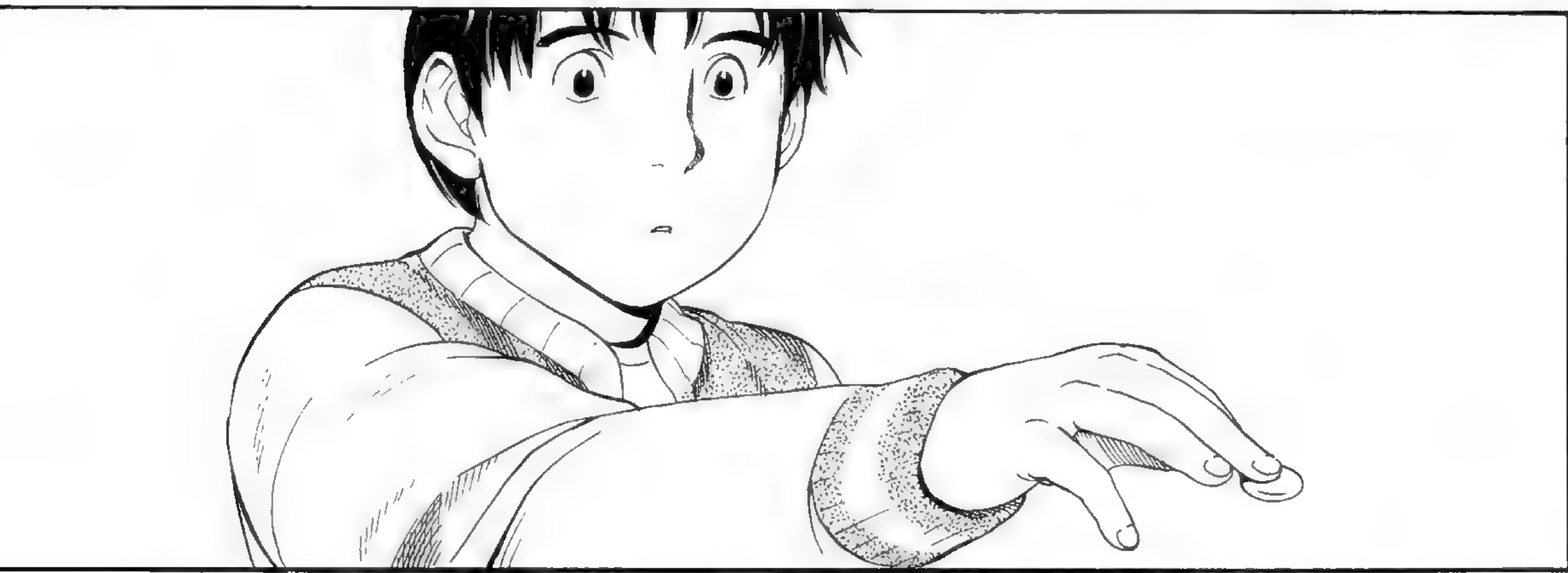
YOU'RE THINKING LIKE THAT BECAUSE YOU'RE ON A LOSING STREAK.

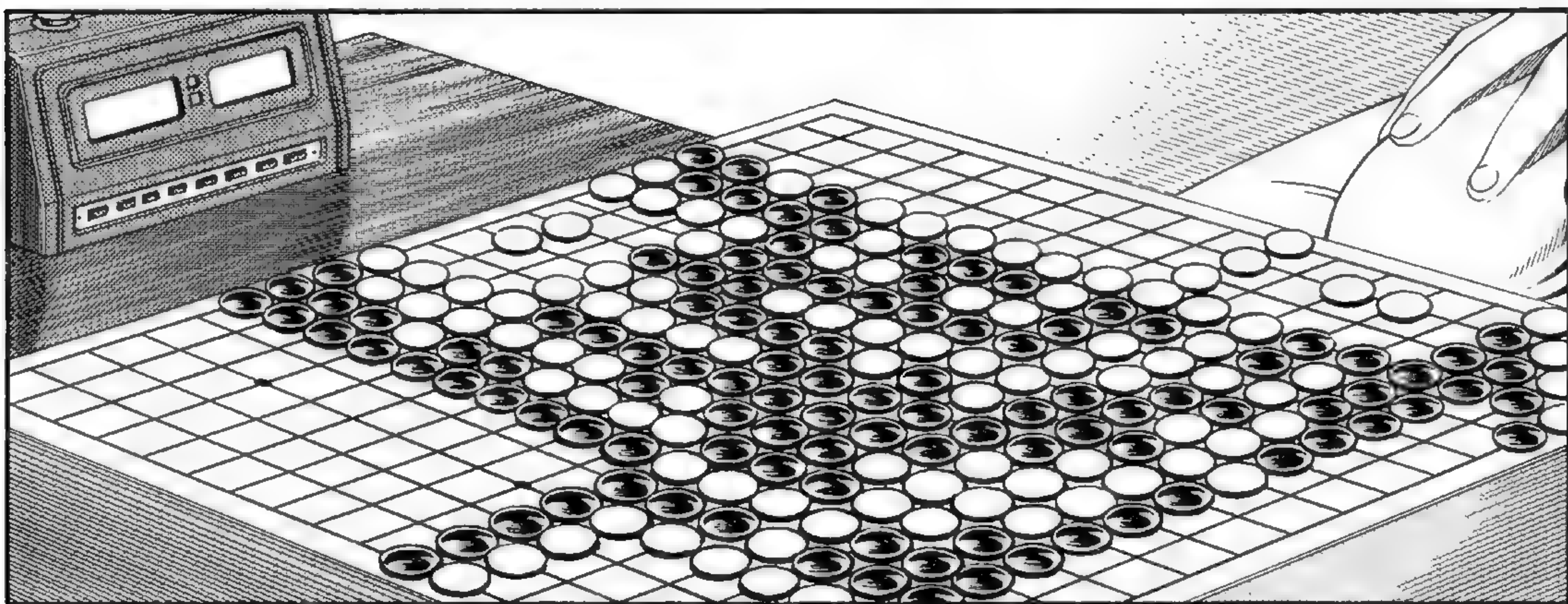


EVERY-ONE HAS TROUBLE NOW AND THEN.



I'VE GOTTA TURN THIS AROUND!





Just a
little.

He
lost by
a little
again.



LOOKS
LIKE I
WON BY
2 1/2
POINTS.



.....
BWP

MORI-SHITA
9 DAN'S
STUDY
GROUPL

TUESDAY...

© JAPAN GO ASSOC

THIS WAS THE
NEXT MOVE IN
THE ACTUAL
GAME...

BUT WHERE
WOULD BE
A GOOD
MOVE?

BUT THAT'S
NO GOOD.
THAT'S A BAD
MOVE NO
MATTER HOW
YOU LOOK
AT IT.



WHAT ABOUT MAKING A LIGHT EXCHANGE?

KLAK

KLAK

KLAK



KLAK

KLAK

KLAK

IF YOU MOVE TOO FAST, YOUR OPPONENT WILL SOLIDIFY HIS TERRITORY.



YOU'RE NOT THINKING ABOUT THE CORNERS ENOUGH.

IF YOU CUT THROUGH THE FIELD, YOU'LL BE IN TROUBLE WHEN YOUR OPPONENT RESPONDS.



RUSTLE

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

THAT'S NO GOOD, EITHER.



.....

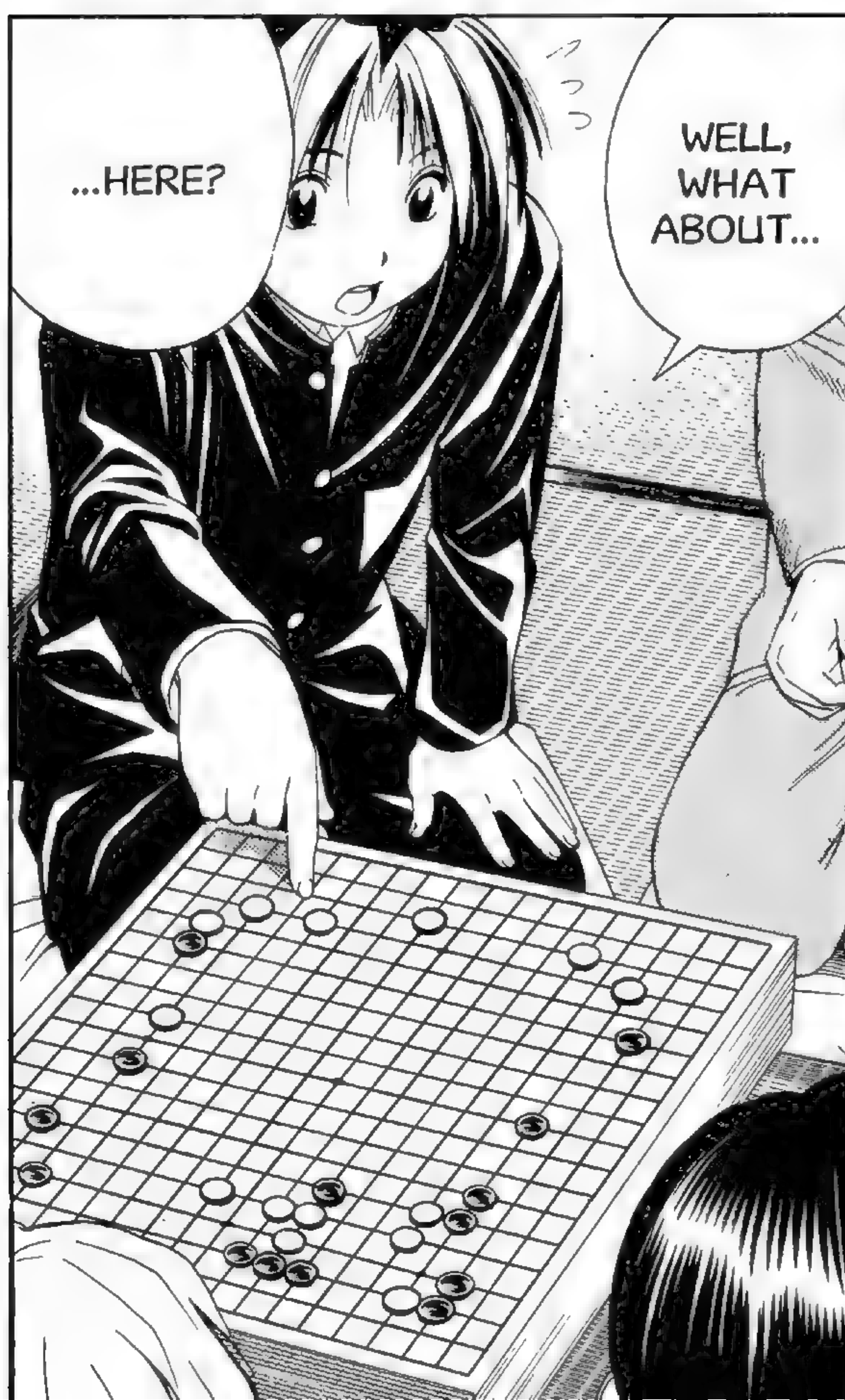
WHAT ABOUT HERE?

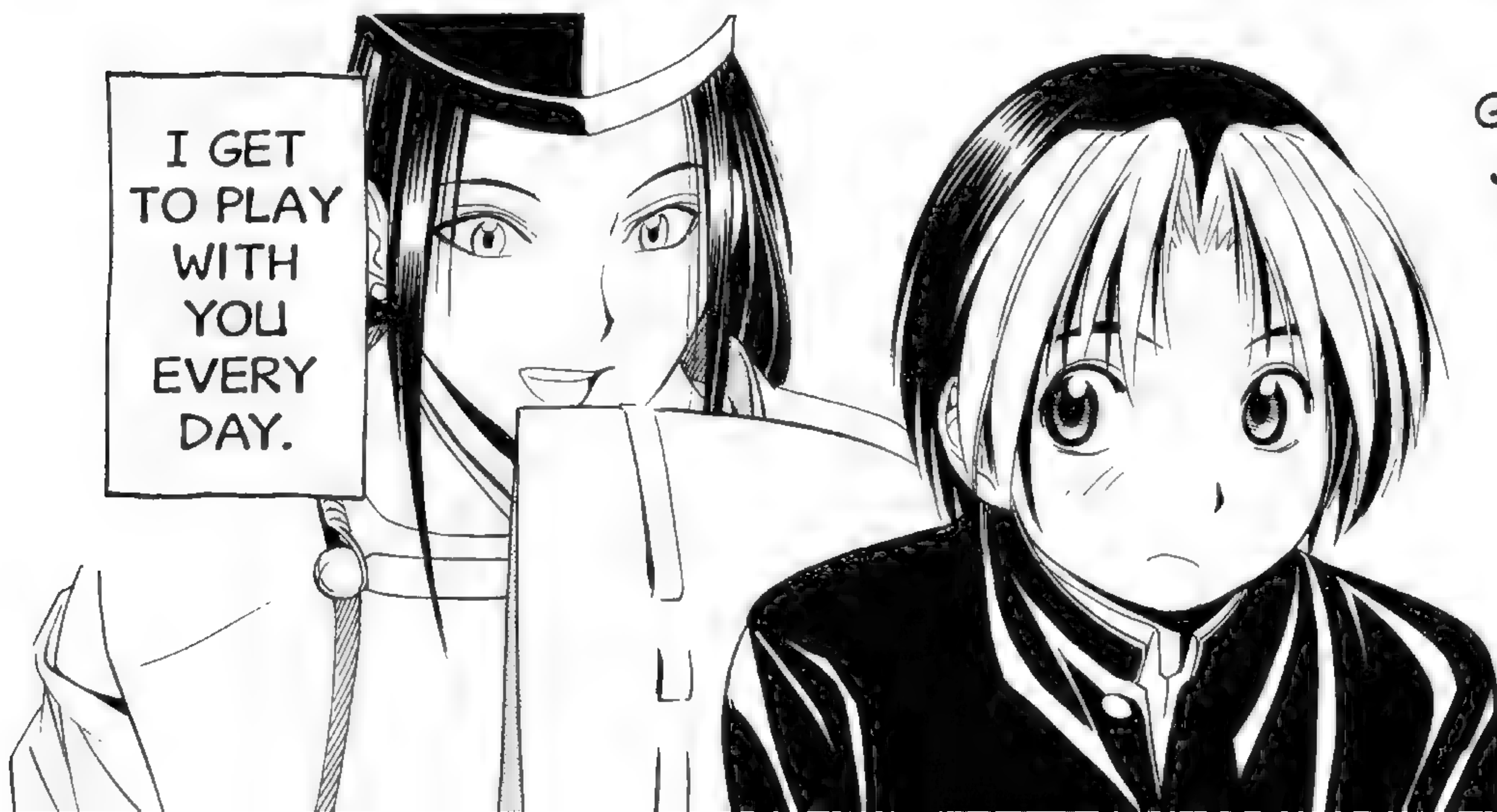


...BUT MY RECORD JUST GETS WORSE.

I'M STUDYING SO HARD...

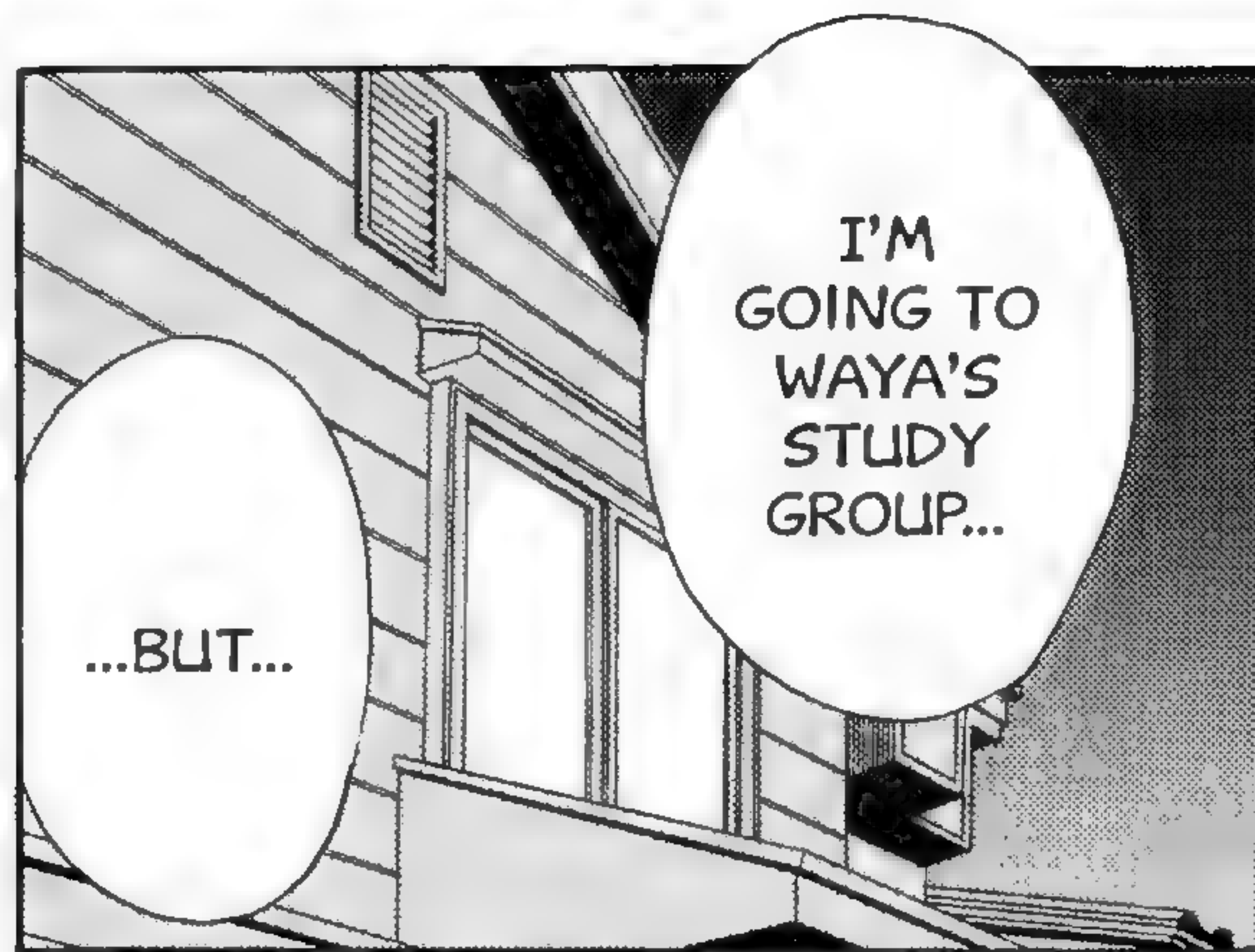






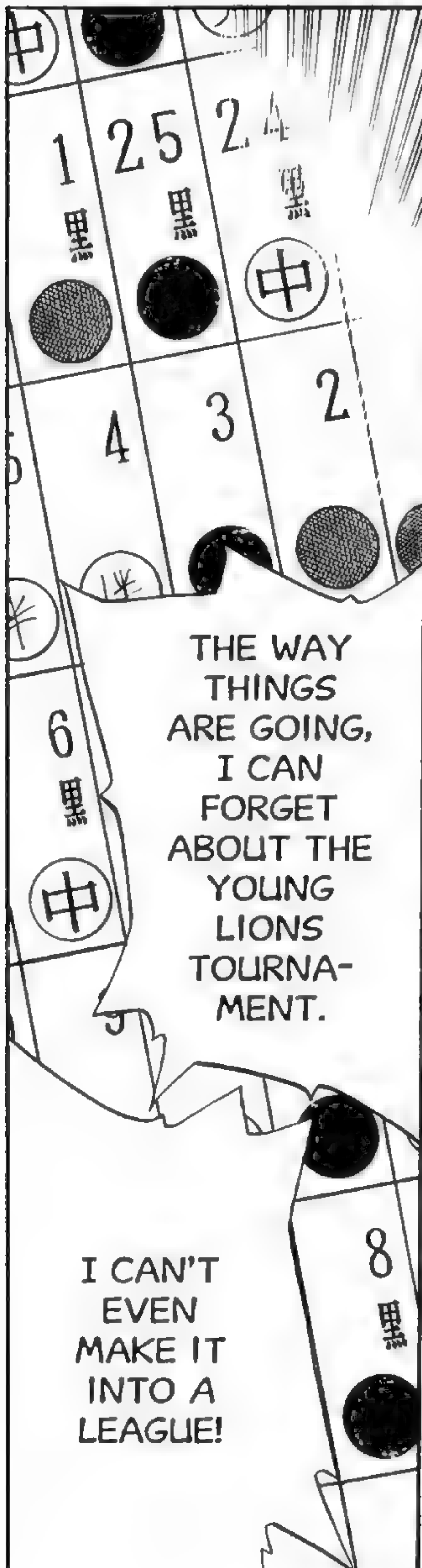


...HOW
COME
MY RANK
KEEPS
FALLING?!



I'M
GOING TO
WAYA'S
STUDY
GROUP...

...BUT...



THE WAY
THINGS
ARE GOING,
I CAN
FORGET
ABOUT THE
YOUNG
LIONS
TOURNA-
MENT.

I CAN'T
EVEN
MAKE IT
INTO A
LEAGUE!



WHY?!

LOOKS
LIKE
I HAVE
TO START
AT THE
BOTTOM OF
B LEAGUE
IN MARCH!

MY
RECORD FOR
FEBRUARY IS
HORRIBLE!!



And
that
is the
reason
why...

I'M
PLAYING
AGAINST
YOU EVERY
DAY, SAI!



HUH?



....

WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT,
SAI?

IT INTRODUCED
VARIOUS
JUMP
COMICS.



A PAMPHLET
WAS INSERTED
INTO HIKARU NO
GO, VOLUME 5,
WHEN IT WENT
ON SALE.

HIKARU NO GO STORYBOARDS

18

YUMI
HOTTA



WILL
HER ← (SAI)
TRUE IDENTITY
BE REVEALED?



IN HIKARU NO GO, VOLUME 5,
SAI'S TRUE STRENGTH IS
REVEALED DURING HIS
ONLINE MATCH WITH AKIRA.



I'M GETTING
TIRED OF
REPEATING
THAT SAI
IS MALE.

FORGET IT.
IT DOESN'T
MATTER
ANYMORE.

HEY,
HEY...





Game 54 "Tomorrow
Is Anyone's Game"



"HON'INBO
SHUSAKU."



IT WAS
IN A
PRETTY
OLD
ARTICLE.

THAT
WAS
THE GO
PLAYER'S
REPLY.



IT'S
SUPPOSEDLY
BEEN
DEVELOPING,
BUT THE
GREATEST
PLAYER
TURNS OUT
TO BE
SOMEONE
FROM THE
PAST.

THAT'S
RIGHT.
GO IS A
PRETTY
UNUSUAL
GAME.



THE
BEST GO
PLAYER IN
HISTORY,
EH?

TRUE, BUT
SHUSAKU ALSO
HAD A DEEP
UNDERSTANDING
OF THE GAME,
AND HIS MOVES
WERE SHARP.

A PLAYER'S
TECHNICAL
SKILL DEPENDS
ON HIS OR HER
NATURAL
ABILITY.

AND
WHAT IF
SHUSAKU
KNEW
MODERN
JOSEKI?

BUT WE
COULD
HOLD HIM
OFF BY
PLAYING
MODERN
JOSEKI.

ASHIWARA
AND I
WOULDN'T
STAND A
CHANCE!

HE'D
BE THE
GREATEST.

ULP!

EVEN TOYA
MEIJIN
WOULDN'T
STAND A—

SNICKER
SNICKER
ZHP







You are fearful.

Correct!



THAT'S WHY I'M LOSING?

...BECAUSE I PLAY AGAINST YOU?



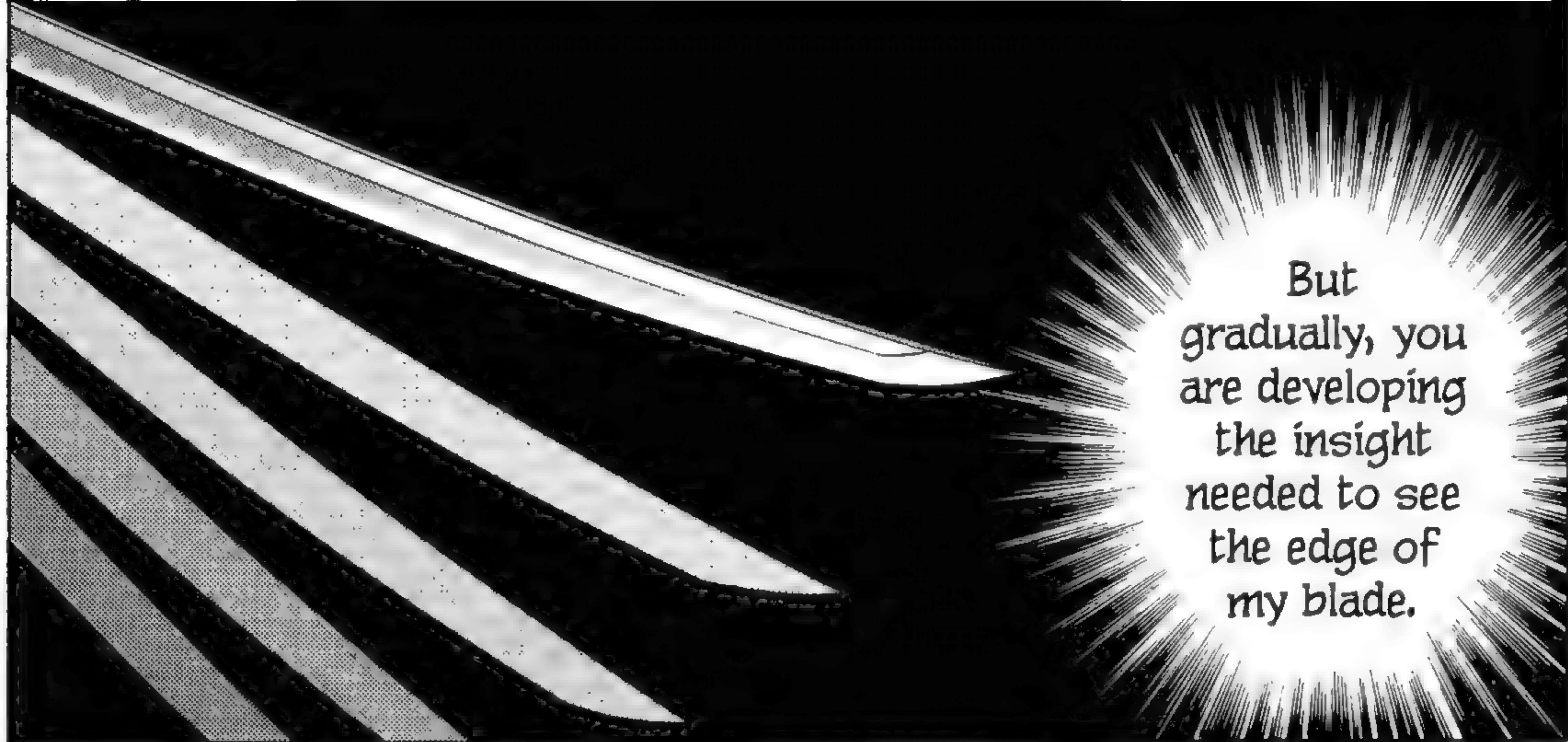


You fear my
attacks on
the board.



You
used to play
against me in
ignorance.





But
gradually, you
are developing
the insight
needed to see
the edge of
my blade.



And thus,
you begin
to fear me.



Look
back at the
games you've
recently lost
by so
narrow a
margin.

And
this subtly
affects your
games
against
others.

That is
why you
hold
back.



Do you
under-
stand?



....



You're
scary!

I can't
help it...



Think clearly!
Step forth
and push the
boundaries of
your game!

Then it
is obvious
what you
must do!

Just as
Akira
does!



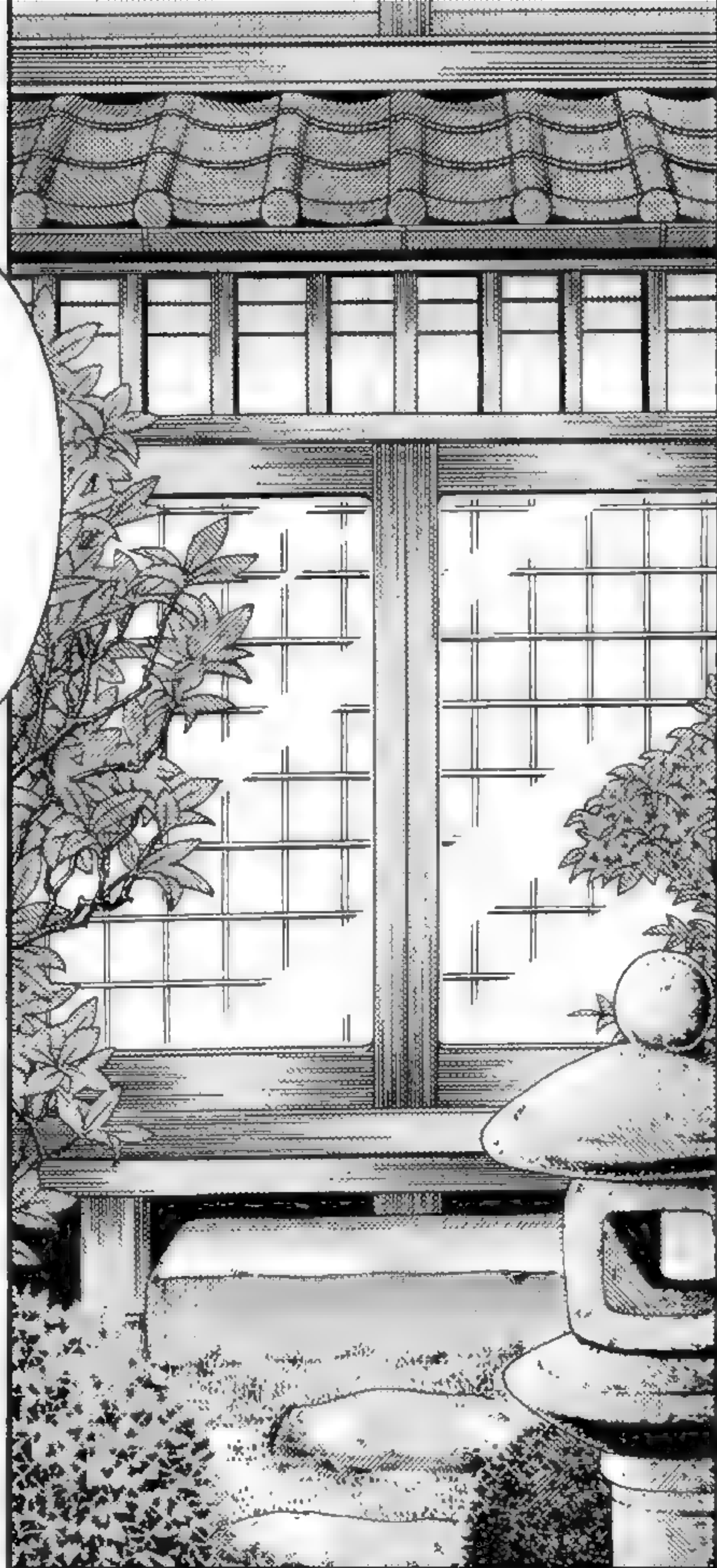




AKIRA
MAY
TURN
PRO
NEXT
MONTH...



...BUT HE
STILL LOOKS
LIKE
A CUTE
MIDDLE-
SCHOOL
KID.



THAT'LL
START TO
CHANGE AFTER
THE 1 DAN
CEREMONY
NEXT
MONTH.

I'M SURE
HE'LL
TAKE THE
YOUNG
LIONS
TOURNA-
MENT IN
MAY.

RIGHT,
AND, OF
COURSE,
HE'LL
START
RACKING
UP WINS.





HMM?

ZHOOP

AKIRA'S
SURE TO
WIN IT!



THE
YOUNG
LIONS
TOURNA-
MENT...



ASHI-
WARA...

BUT HE'S
THE SAME AGE
AS ME, SO HE
WON'T BE
IN IT
THIS YEAR,
EITHER.



TMP

ALL THE
YOUNG PROS
HAVE THEIR
EYES ON YOU.
THEY WANT
TO TAKE
YOU ON.



I'M
LOOKING
FORWARD
TO THE
TOURNA-
MENT,
TOO.

I FEEL
THE SAME
WAY.









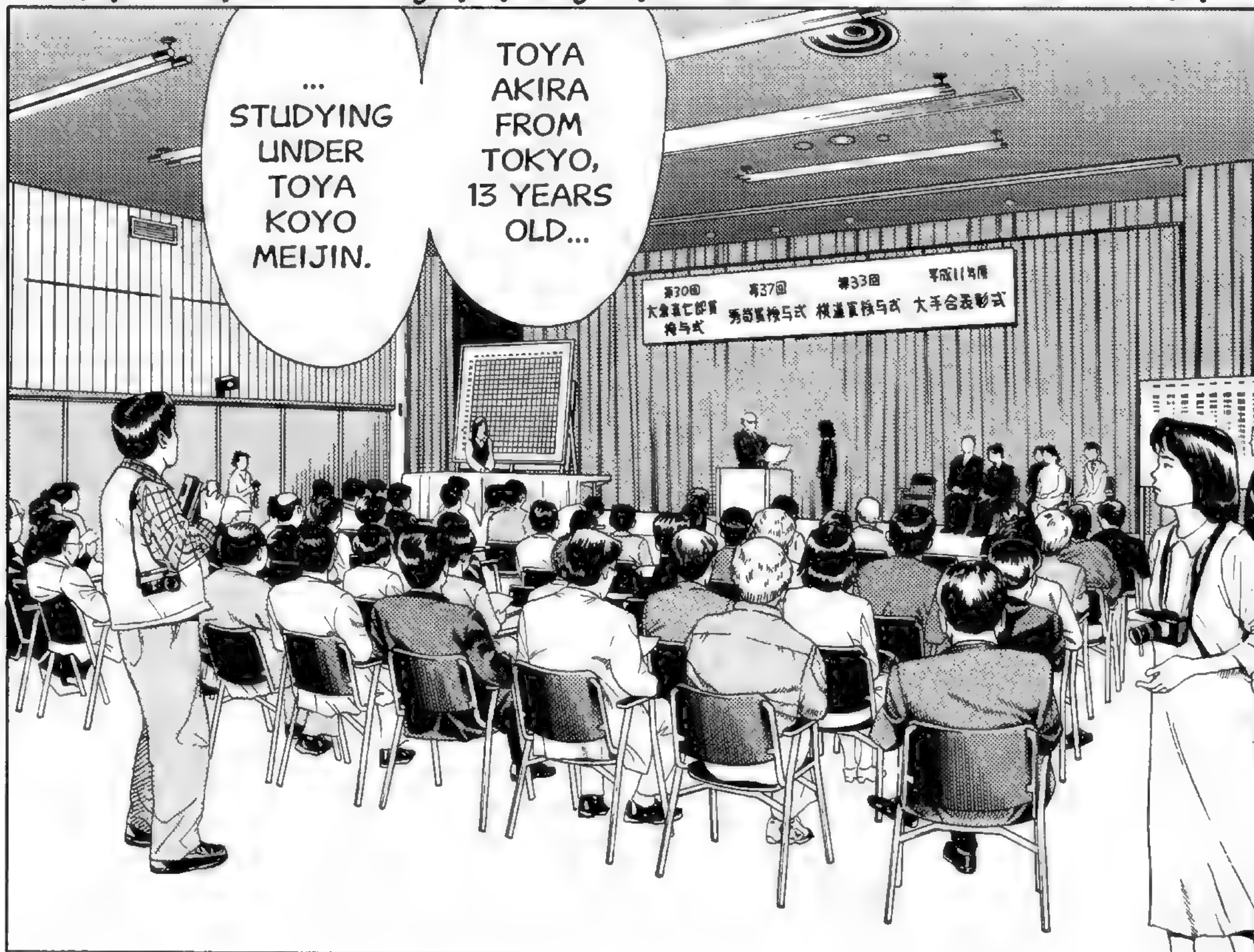
CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP
CLAP
SHODAN
CLAP
AWARDS
CEREMO

ONE
DAY IN
MARCH...

...
STUDYING
UNDER
MIZO-
GUCHI
HIROSHI,
9 DAN.

MASHIBA
MITSURU*
FROM
CHIBA,
17 YEARS
OLD...

*Japanese professional go players go by their last name first, even outside Japan.

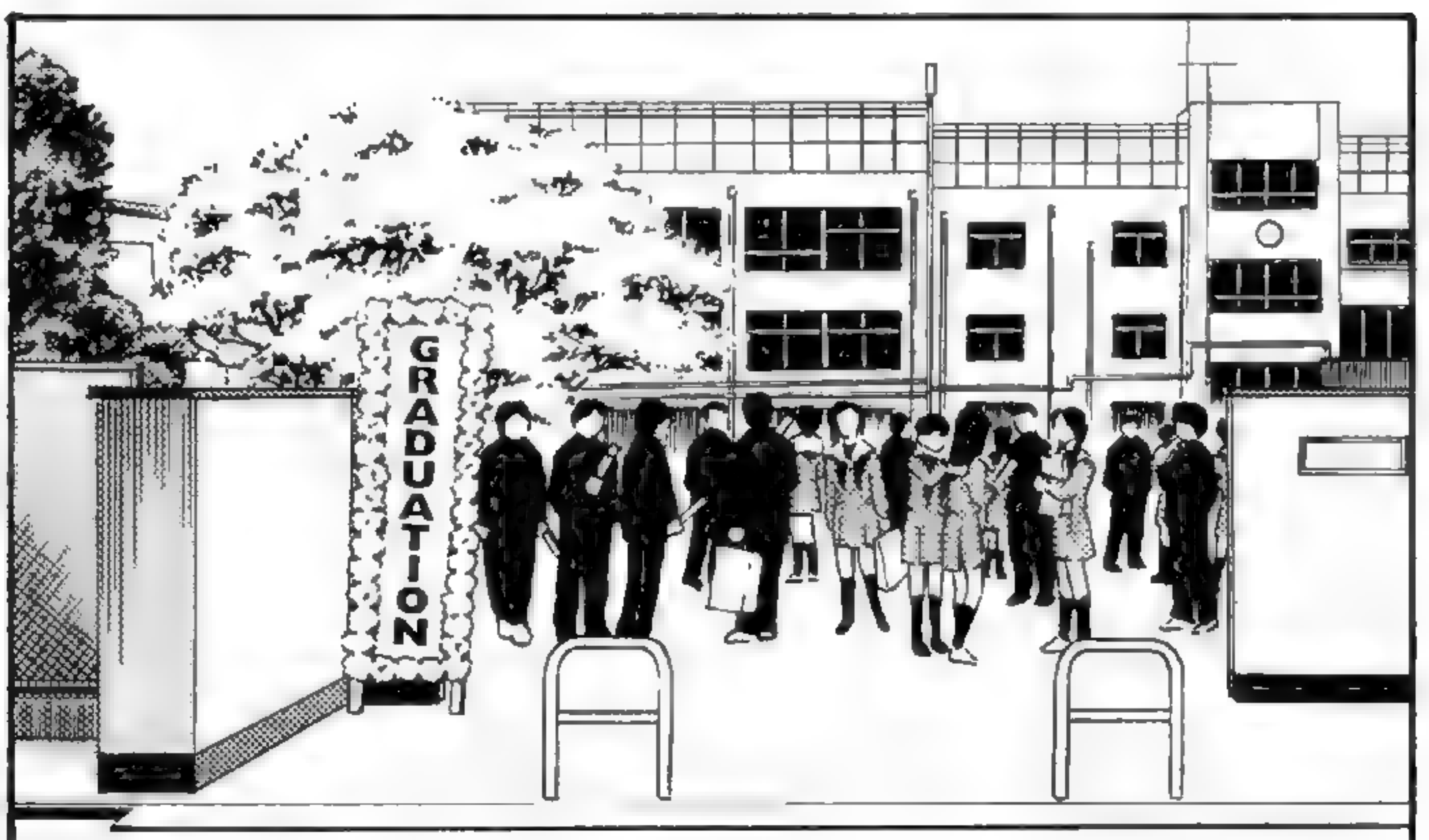
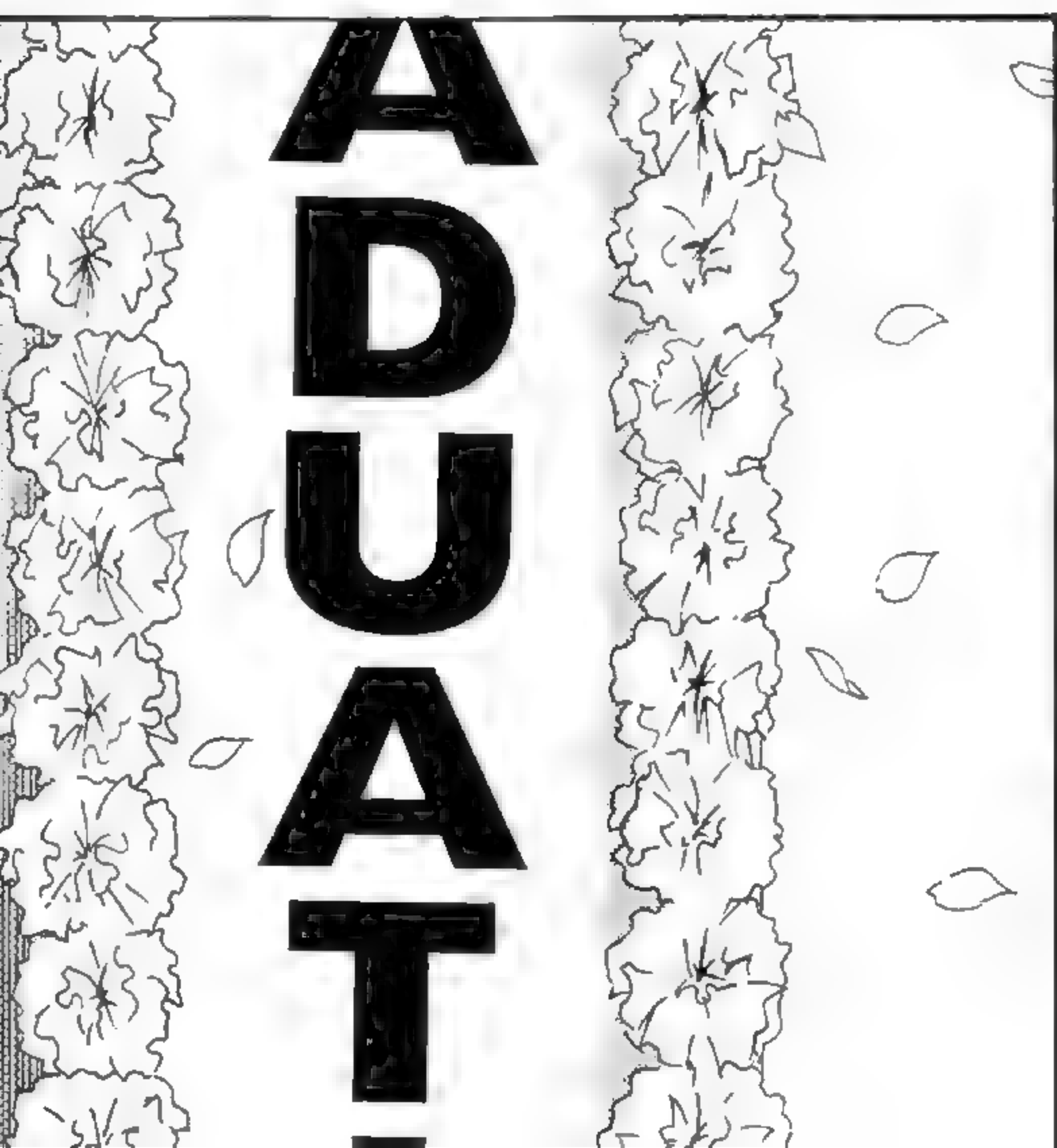


...
STUDYING
UNDER
TOYA
KOYO
MEIJIN.

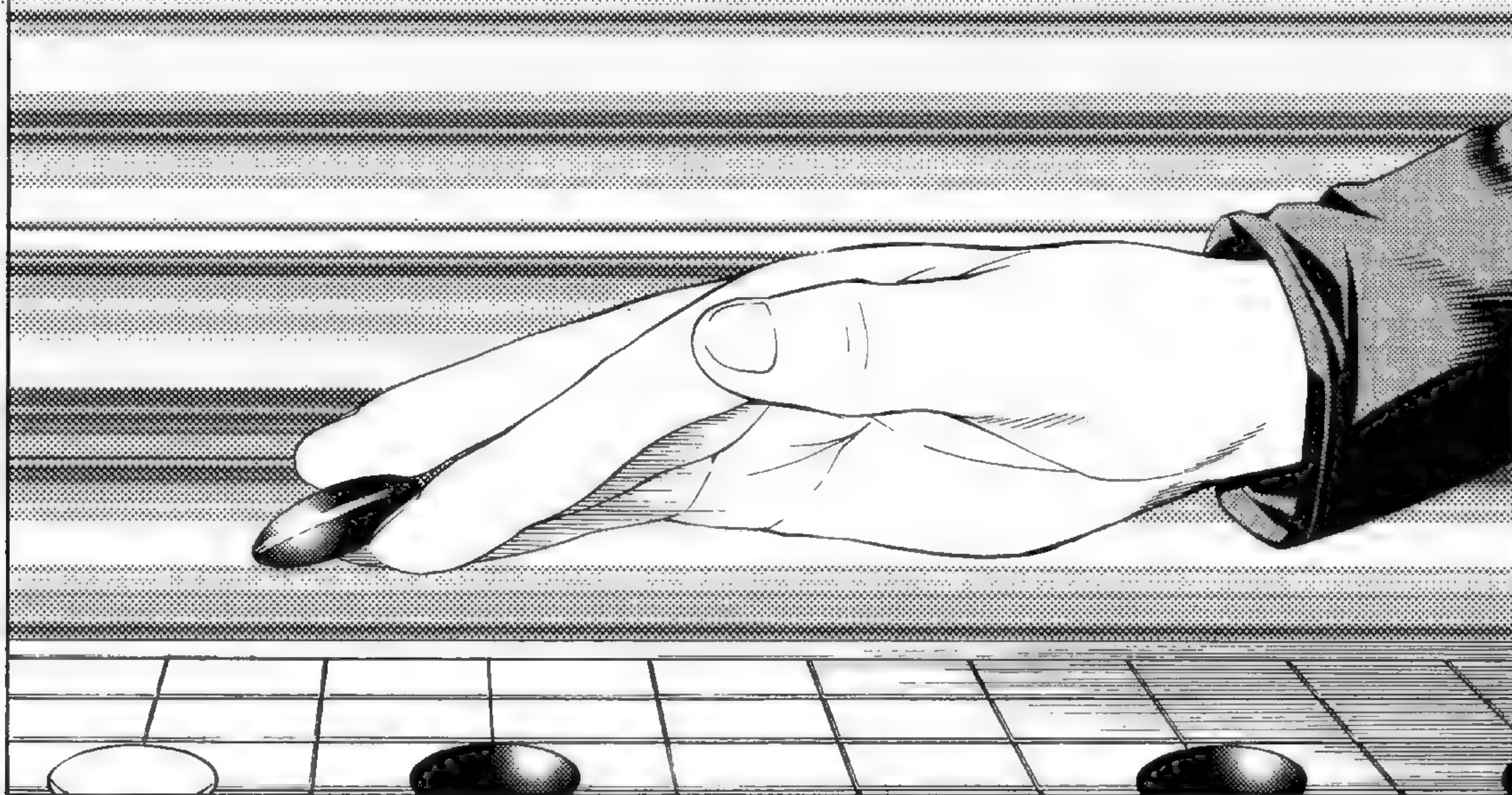
TOYA
AKIRA
FROM
TOKYO,
13 YEARS
OLD...

第30回 第37回 第33回 平成11年度
大倉基仁郎賞 秀哉賞授与式 棋道賞授与式 大手合表彰式





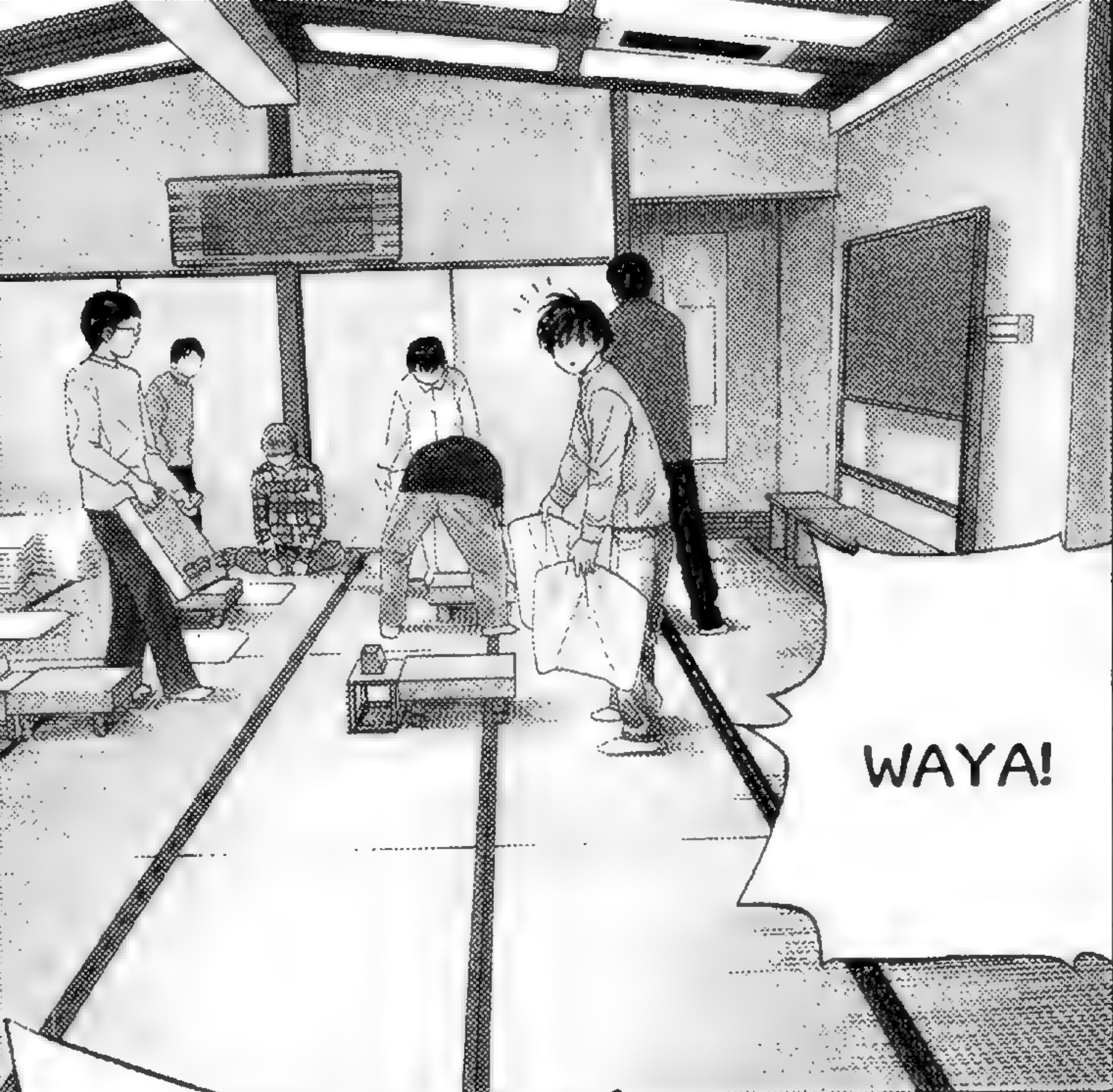




Game 55

"Welcome to A-League"





WAYA!

I DID IT!
I'M IN
A LEAGUE!
LOOK!



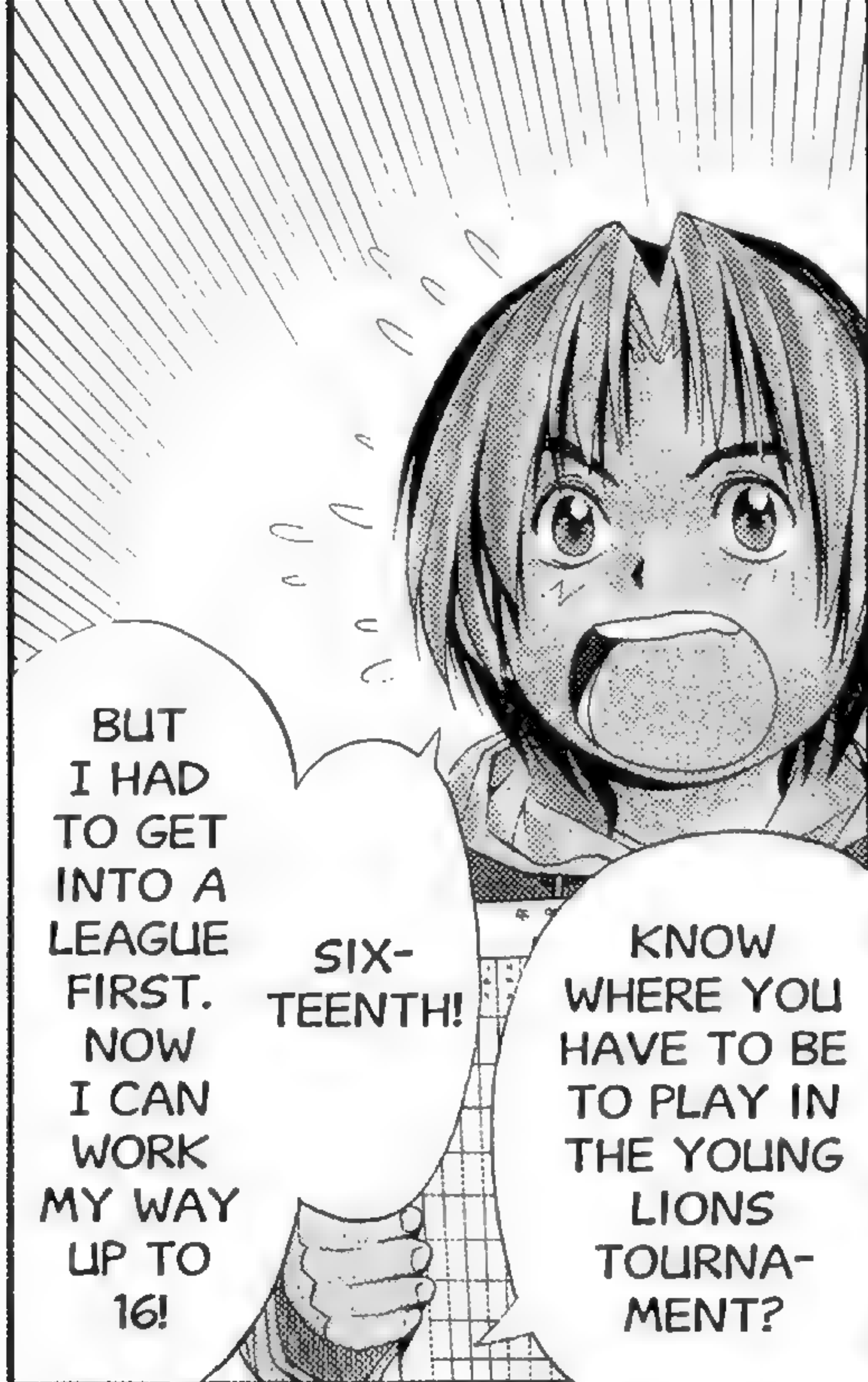
T
A
D
A
A

Hikaru
↓

22	23	24	25
金田	高倉	中村	進藤
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	

APRIL





BUT
I HAD
TO GET
INTO A
LEAGUE
FIRST.
NOW
I CAN
WORK
MY WAY
UP TO
16!

SIX-
TEENTH!

KNOW
WHERE YOU
HAVE TO BE
TO PLAY IN
THE YOUNG
LIONS
TOURNA-
MENT?



HAH!

Heh
heh

BUT
YOU'RE
STILL
AT THE
BOTTOM.

THWAP



...BUT DON'T
FORGET —
FROM NOW
ON YOU'RE
PLAYING
AGAINST
US.

ENJOY THE
MOMENT,
SHINDO...



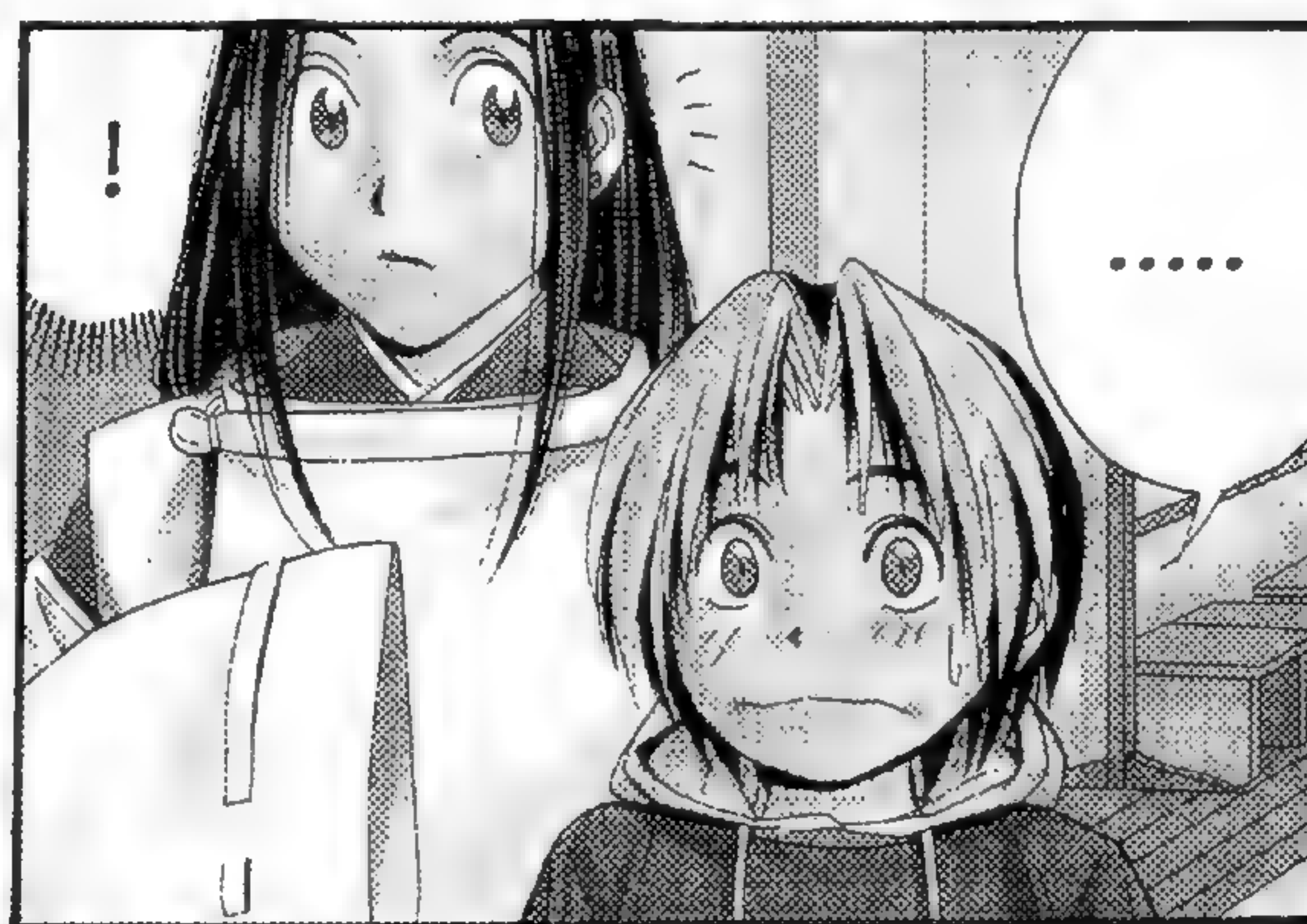
I GUESS
YOU DID
COME UP
PRETTY
FAST.

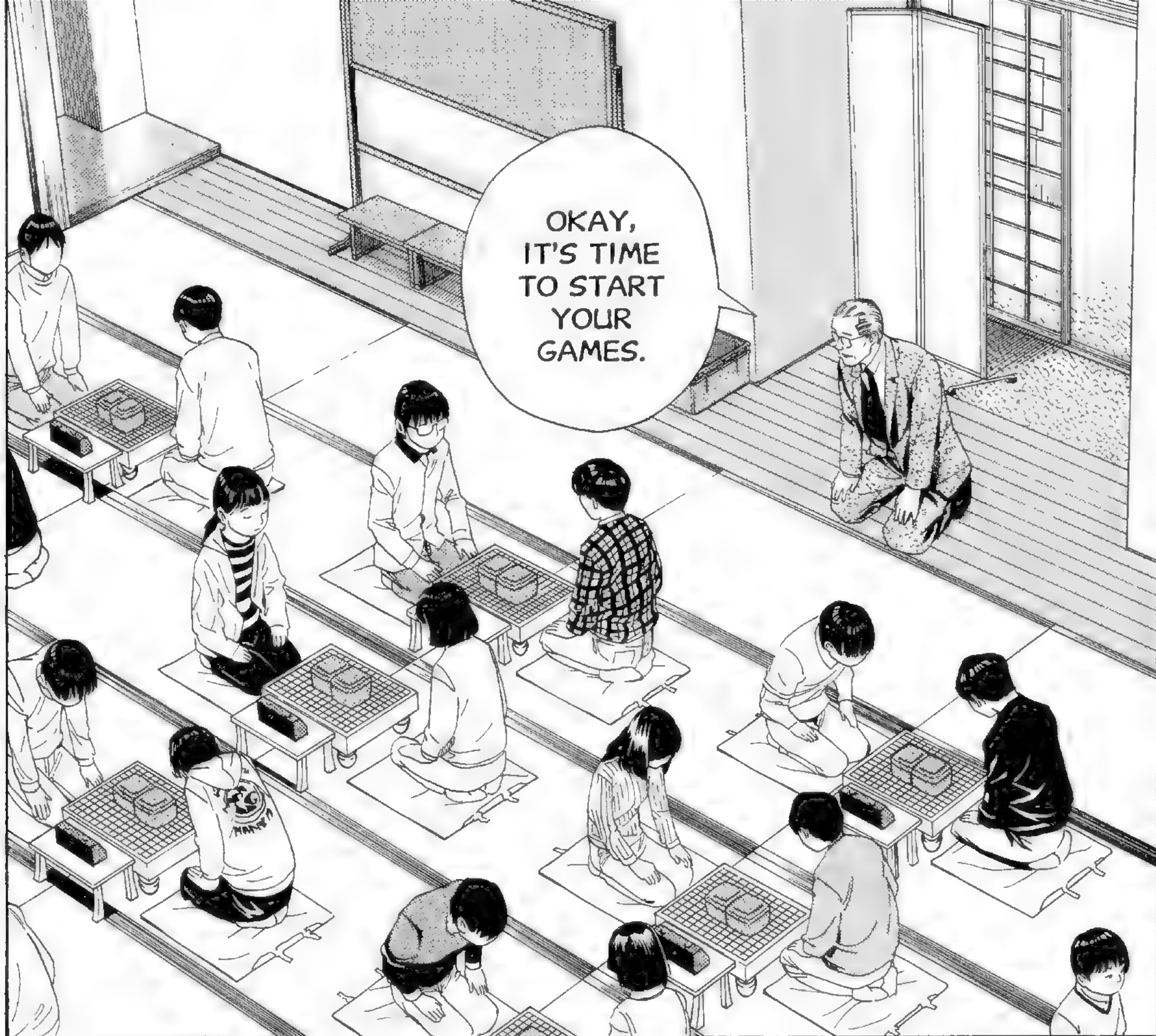


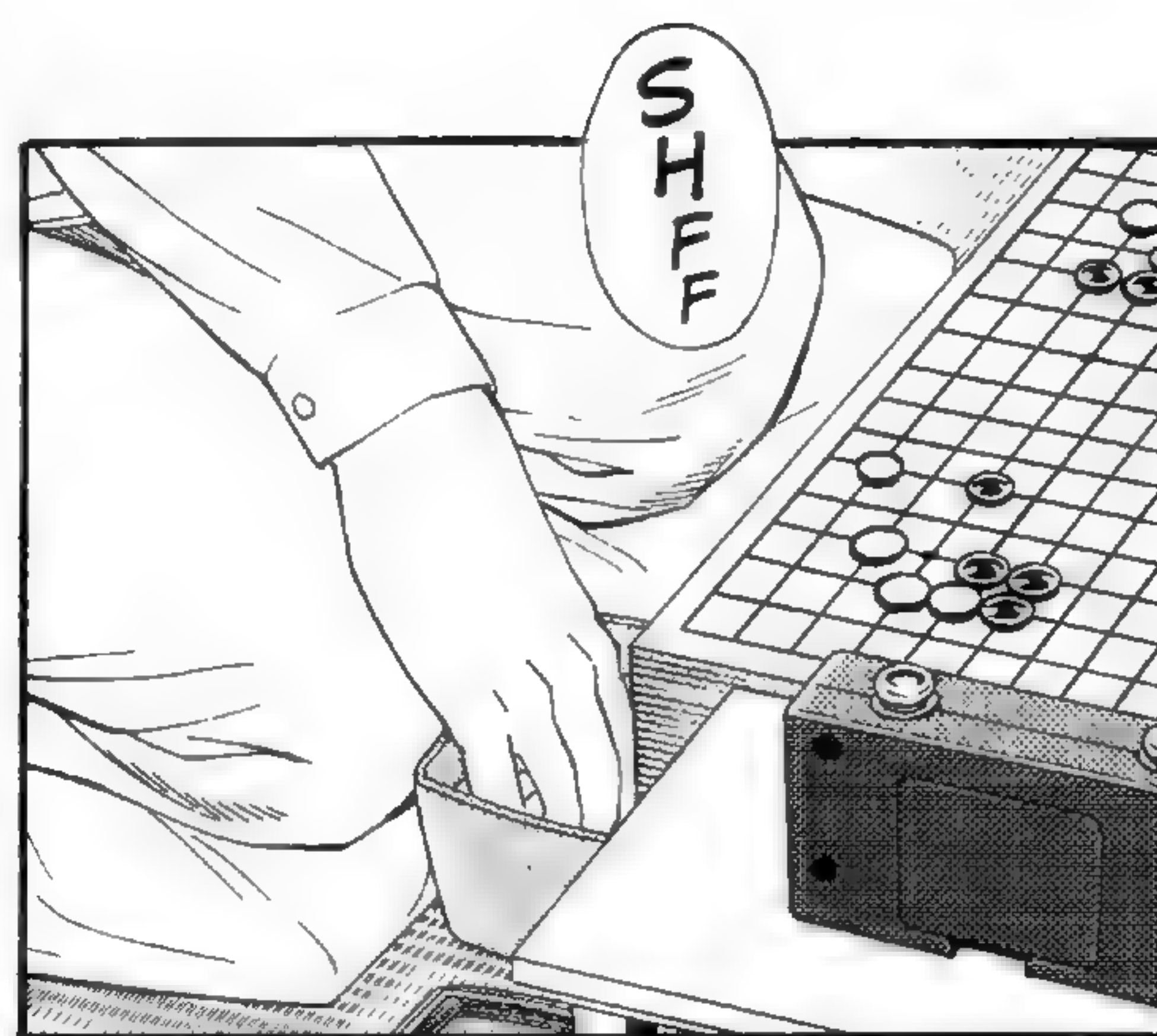
YIKES!

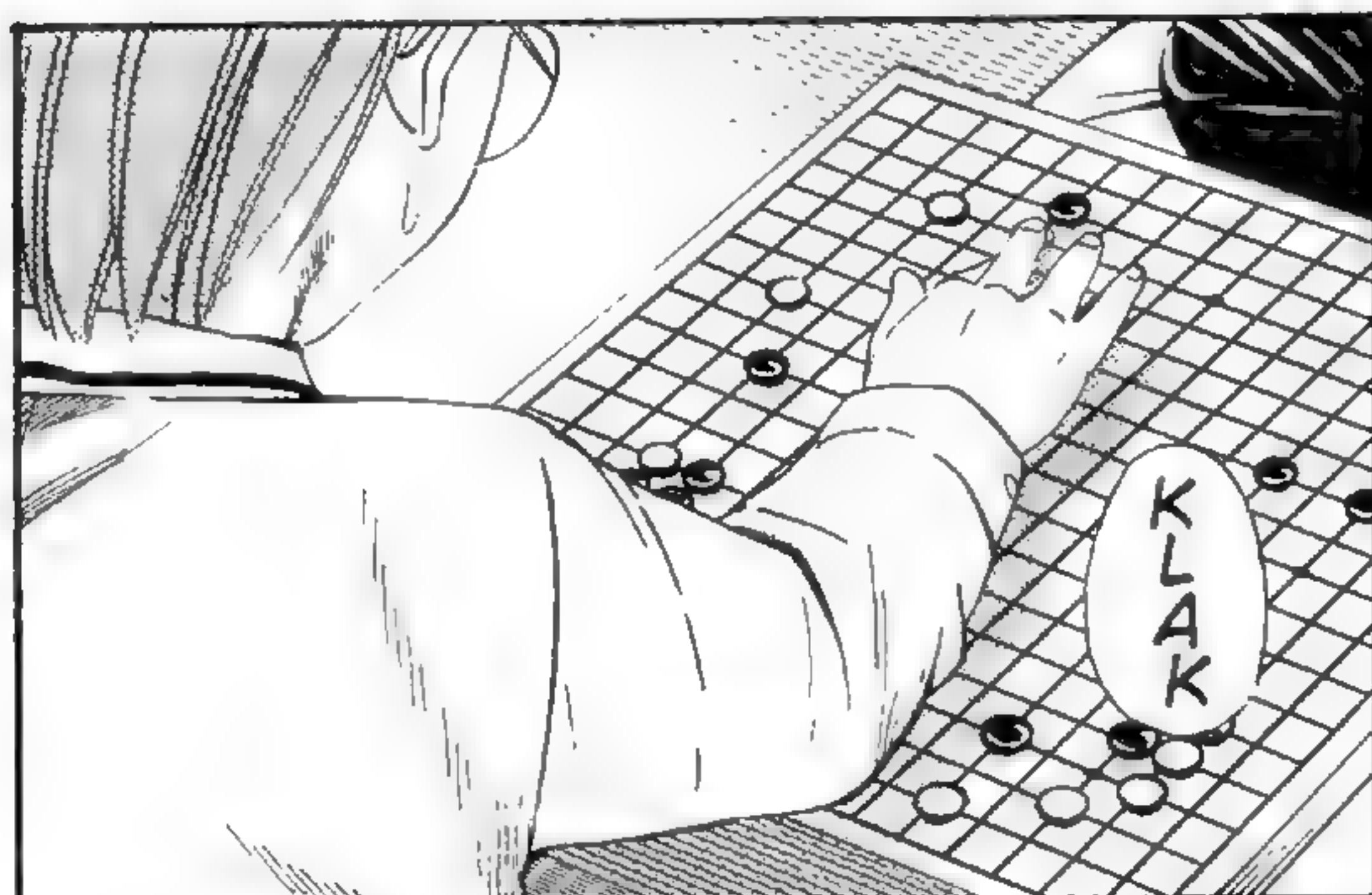
WELCOME
TO A
LEAGUE!



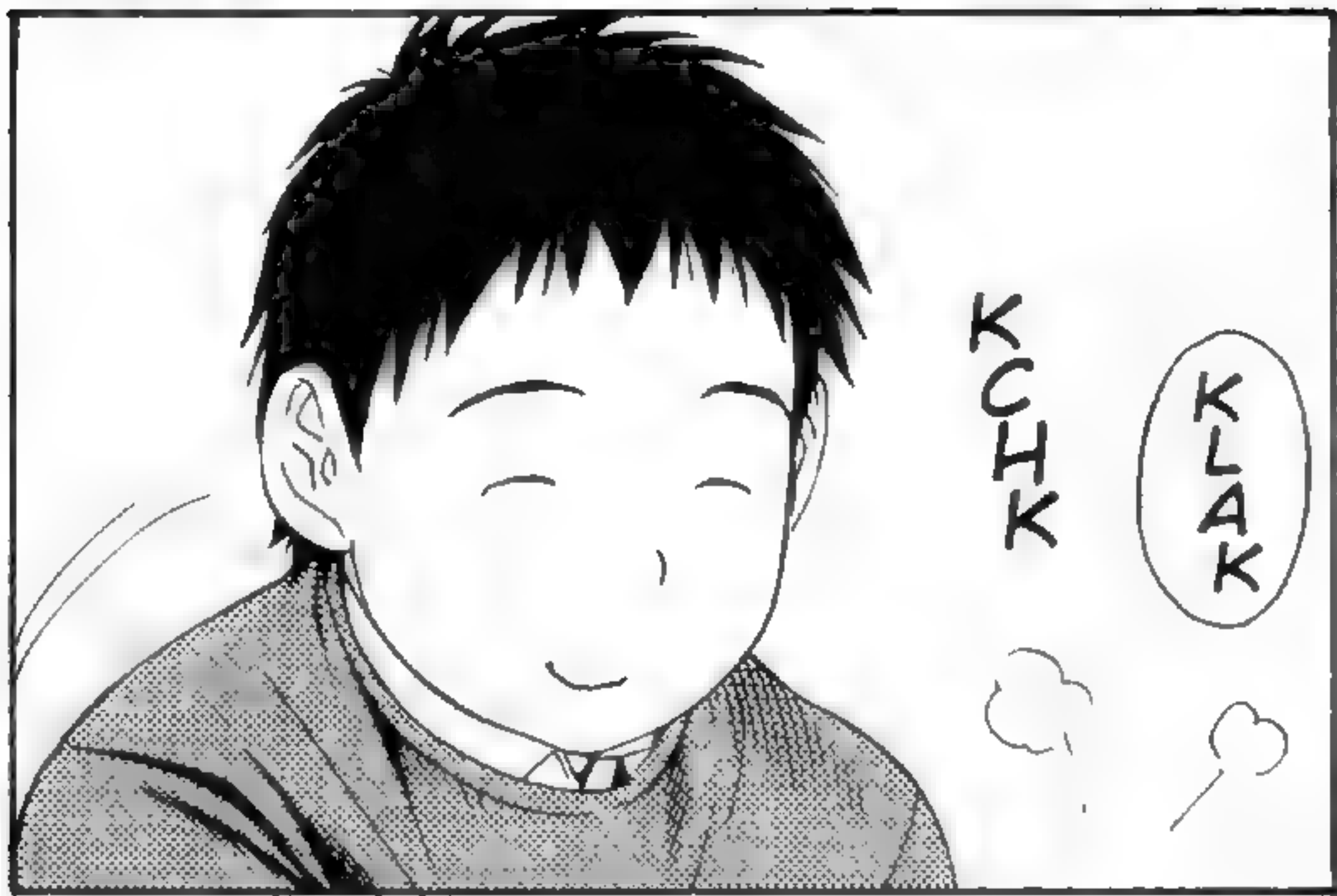














MY TEACHER
DID PRAISE ME
FOR MY THREE
SIMULTANEOUS
GAMES. MAYBE
I'M BETTER
WHEN I PLAY
FASTER.

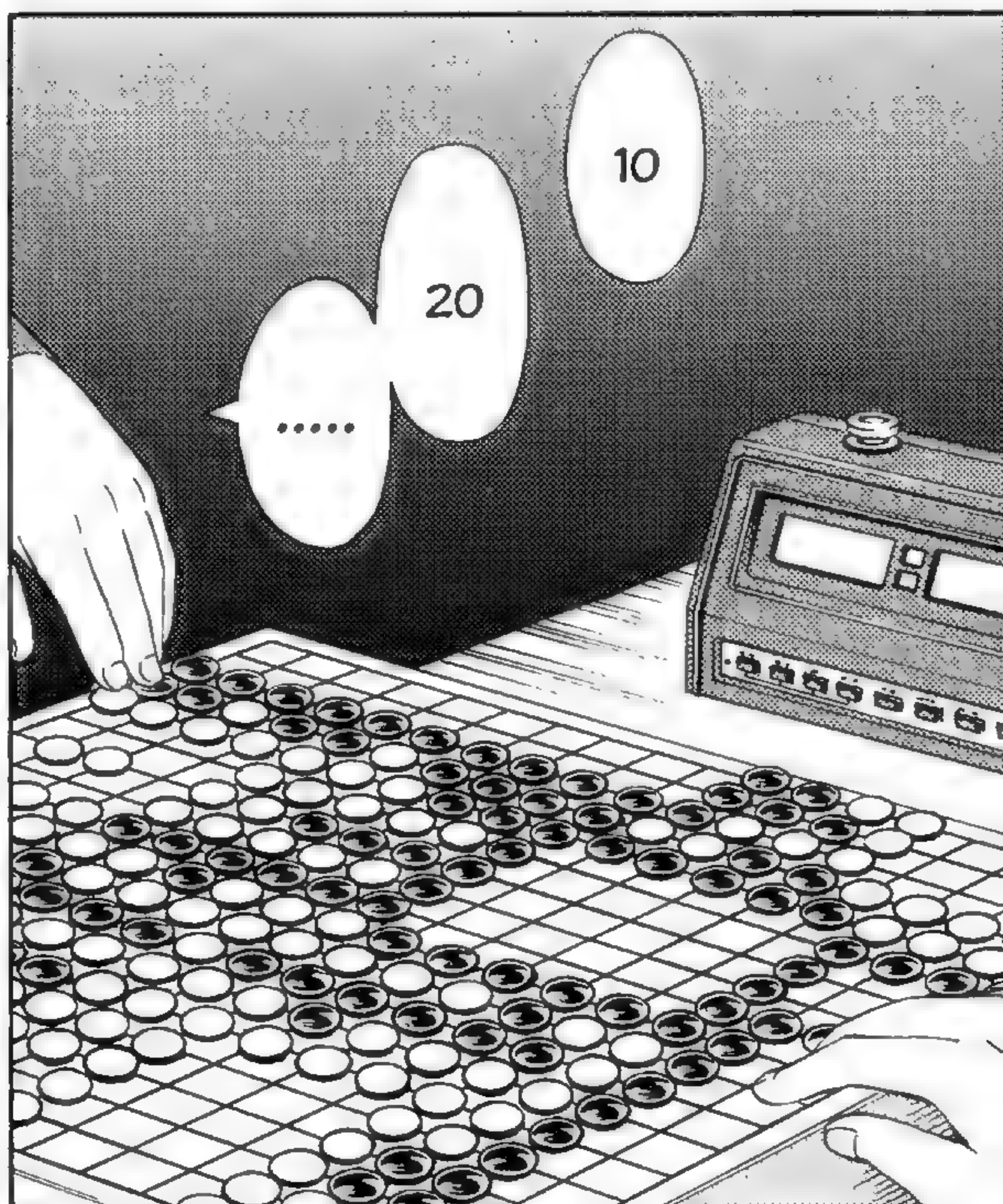
THIS
FEELS
EASIER.



WOW!
I WON BY
HALF A
POINT!



ARGH!
I LOST
BY HALF
A POINT!



.....

20

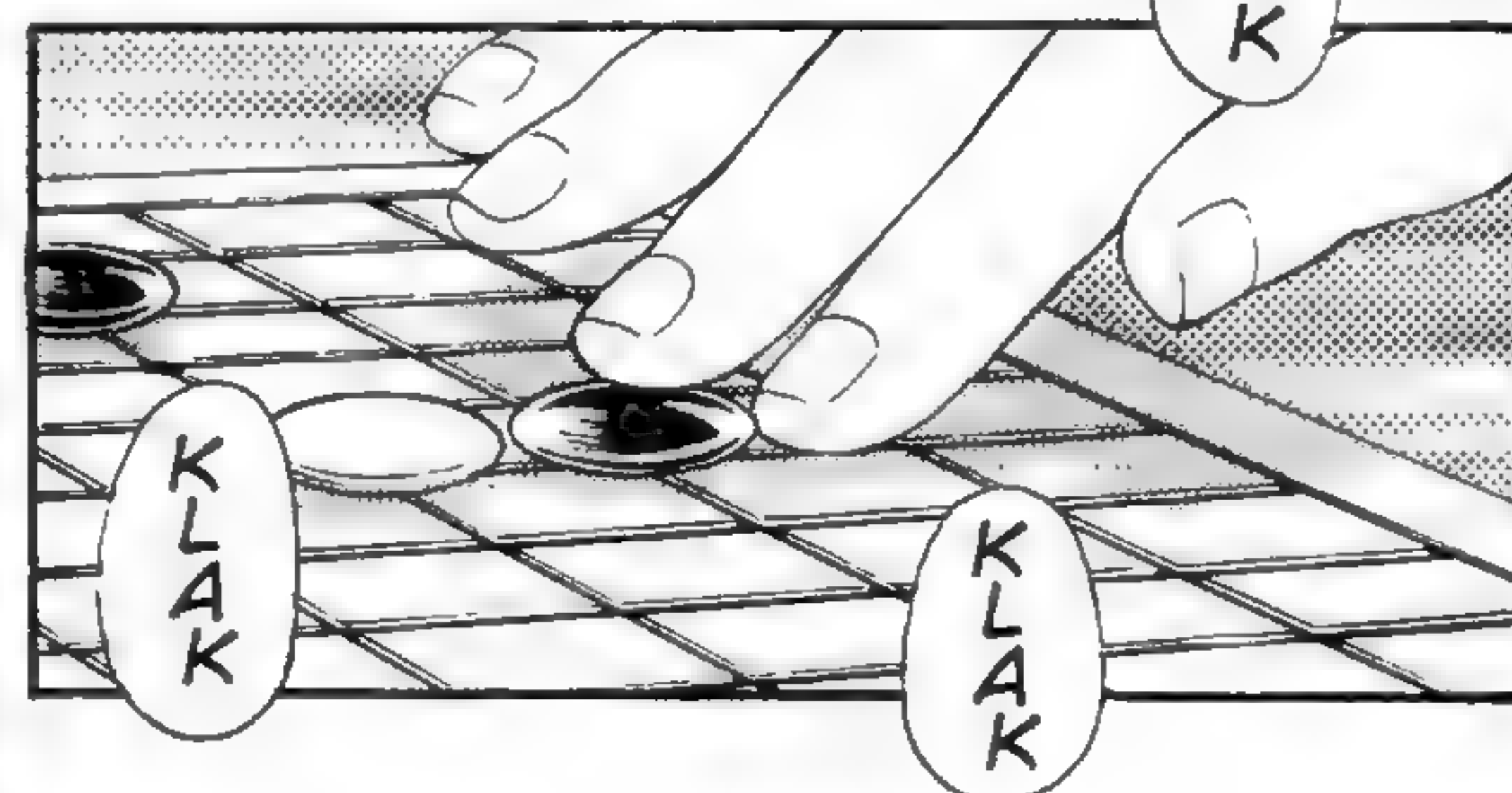
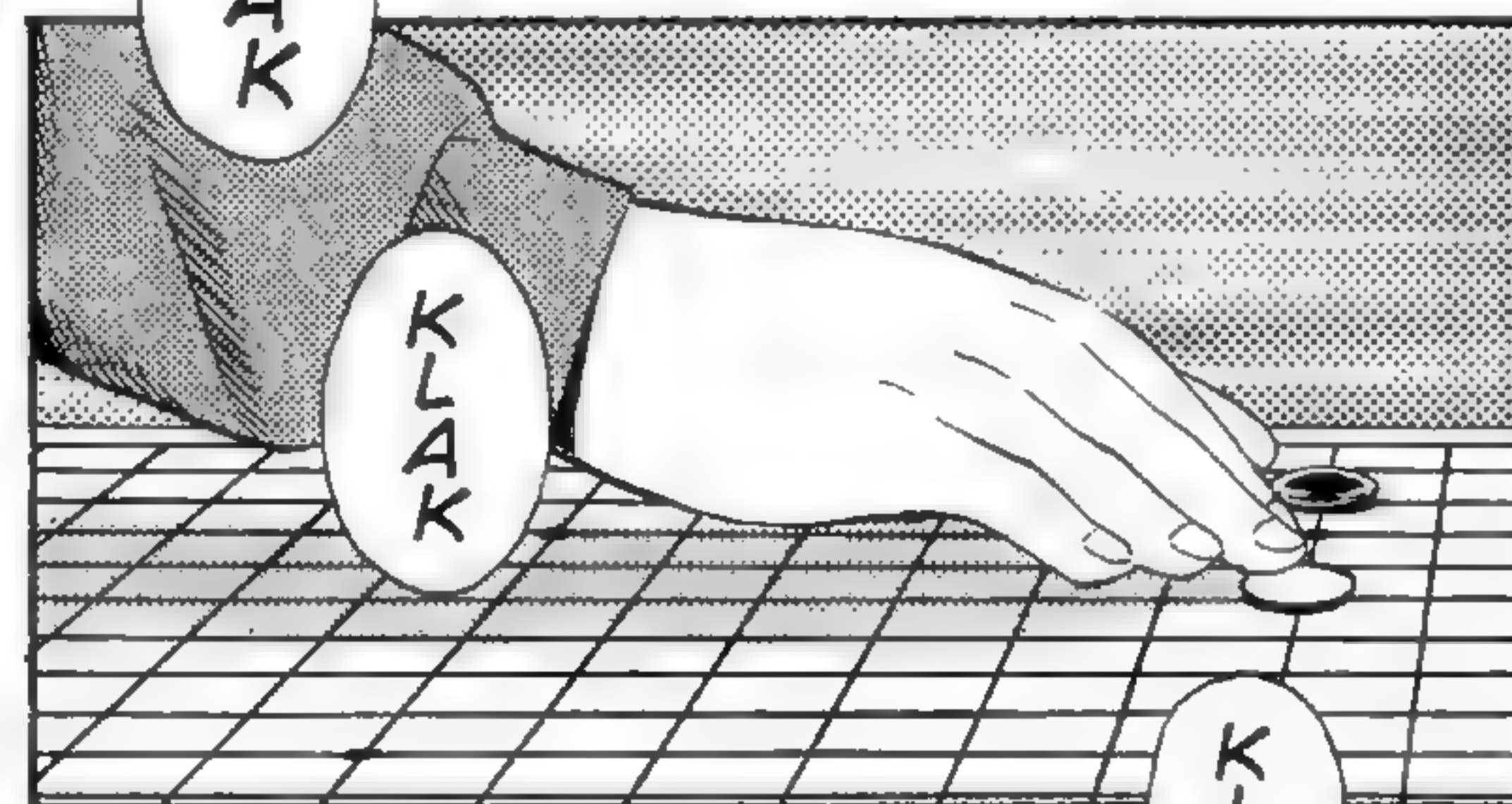
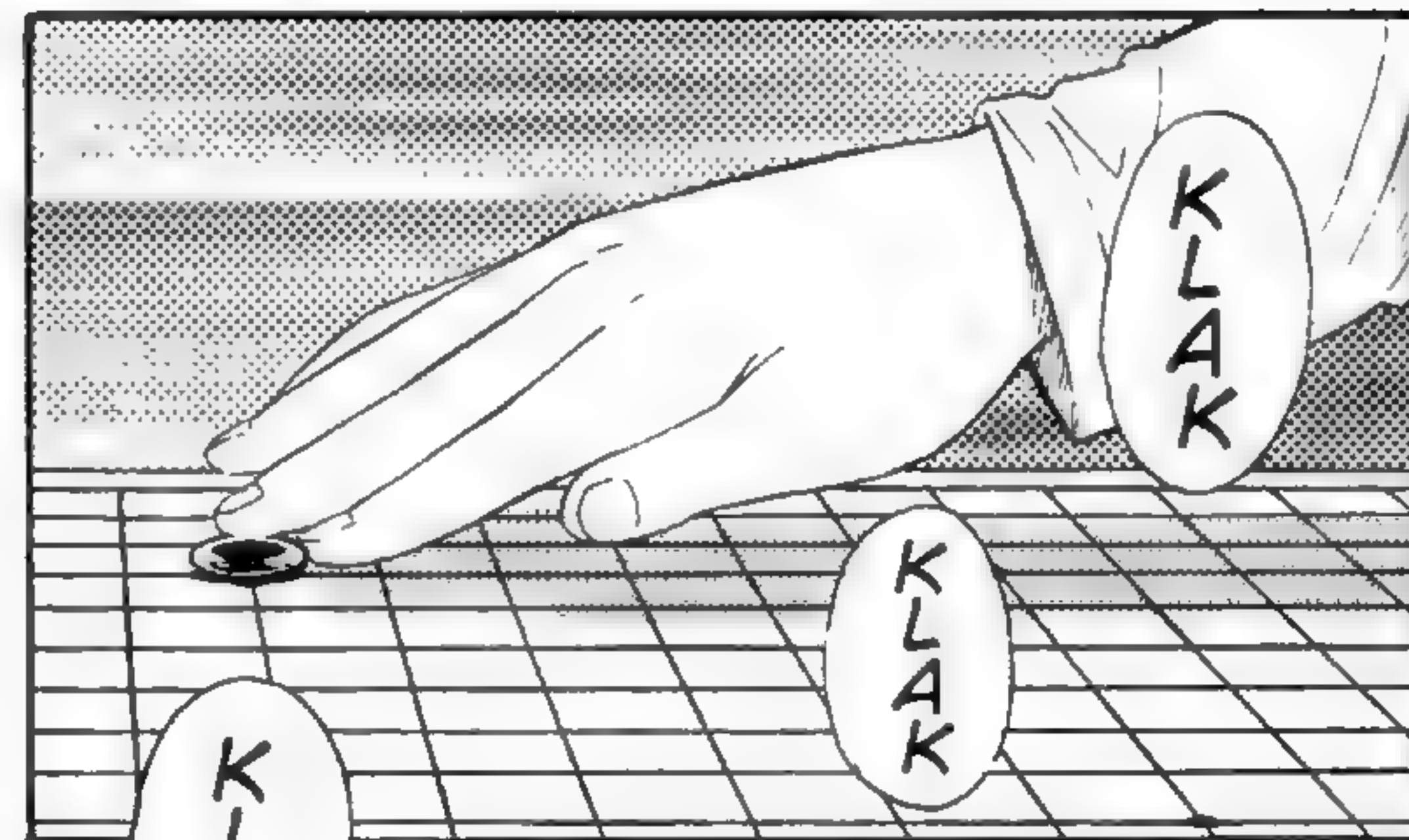
10



AND
THEN
YOU
PLAYED
THERE...

...AND
THINGS
GOT
REALLY
COMPLI-
CATED.

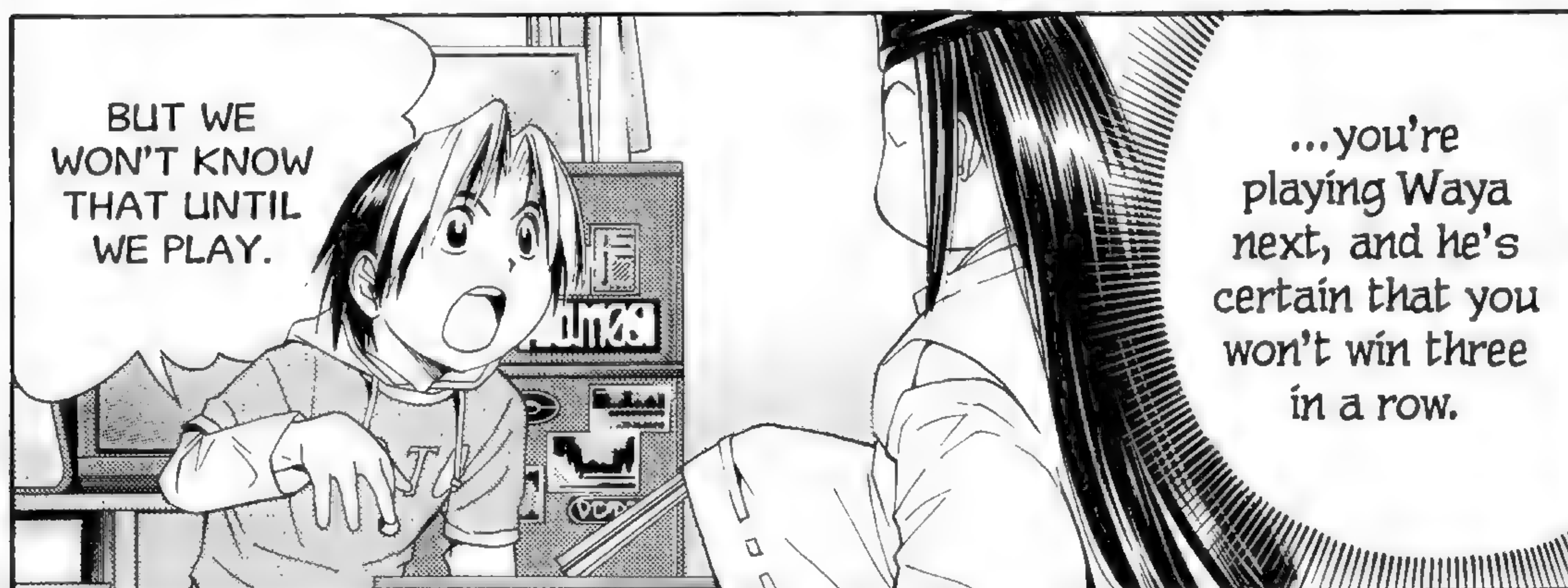
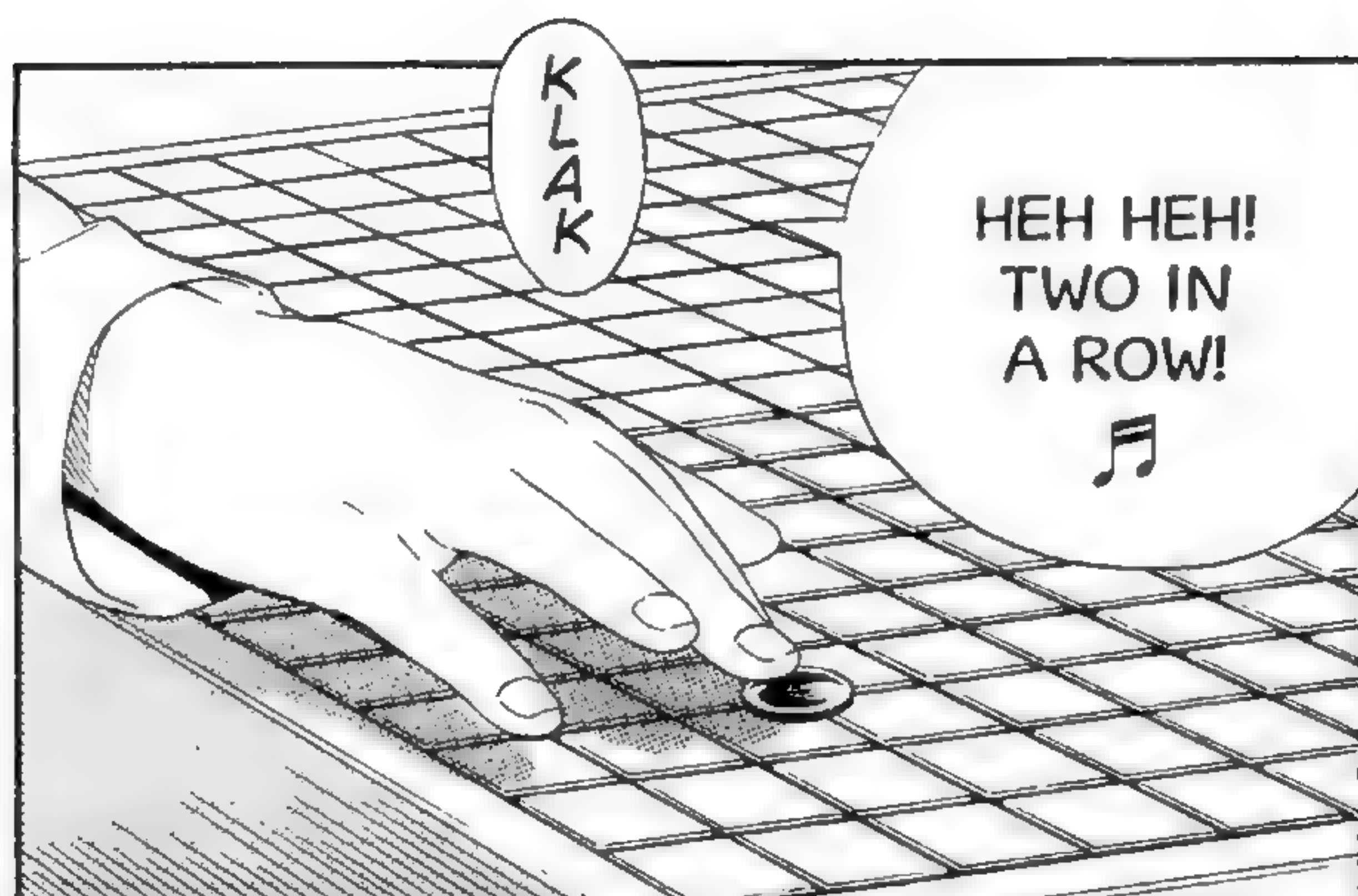
THINGS
GOT
HARDER
HERE.
BUT YOU
JUST KEPT
AT IT.



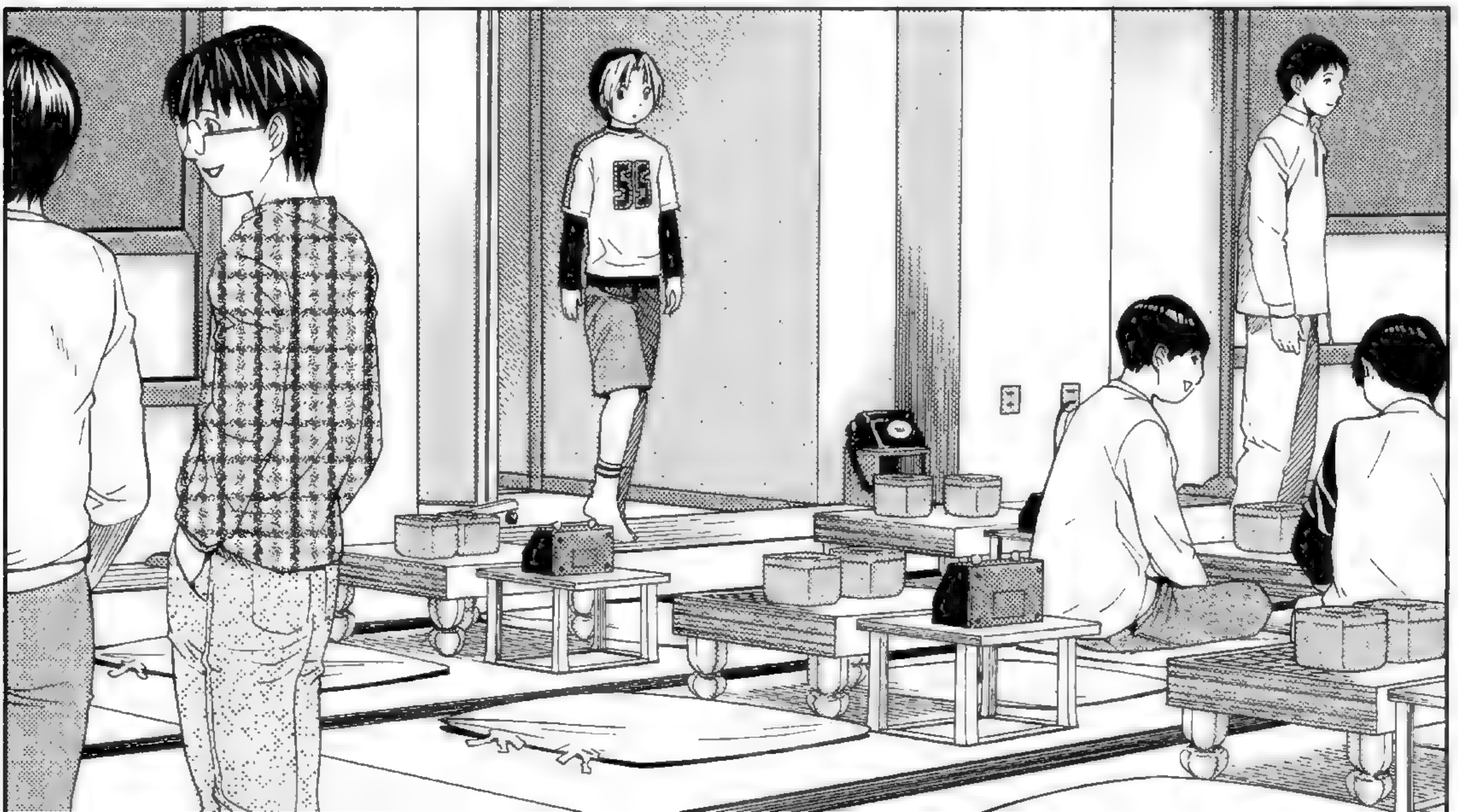


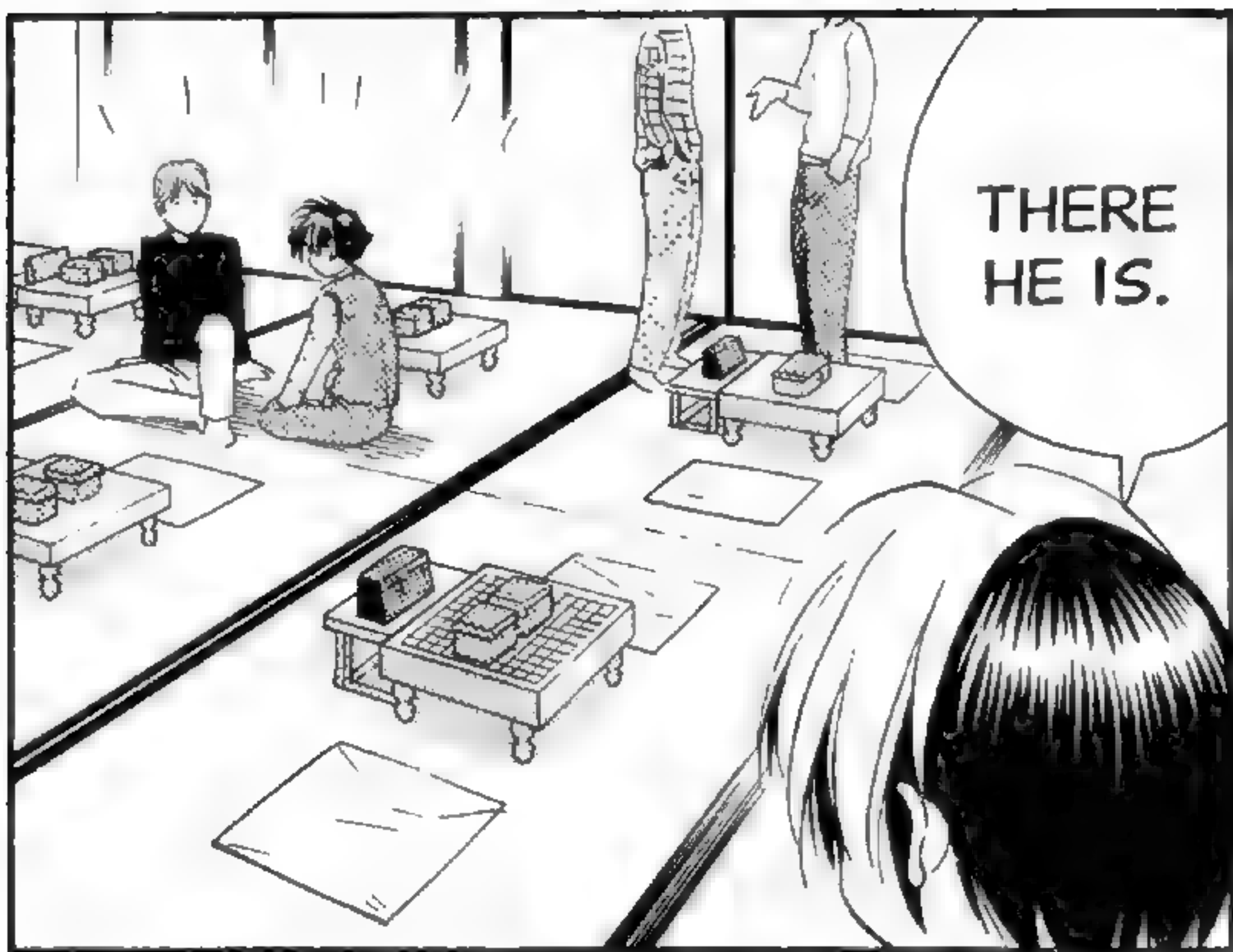


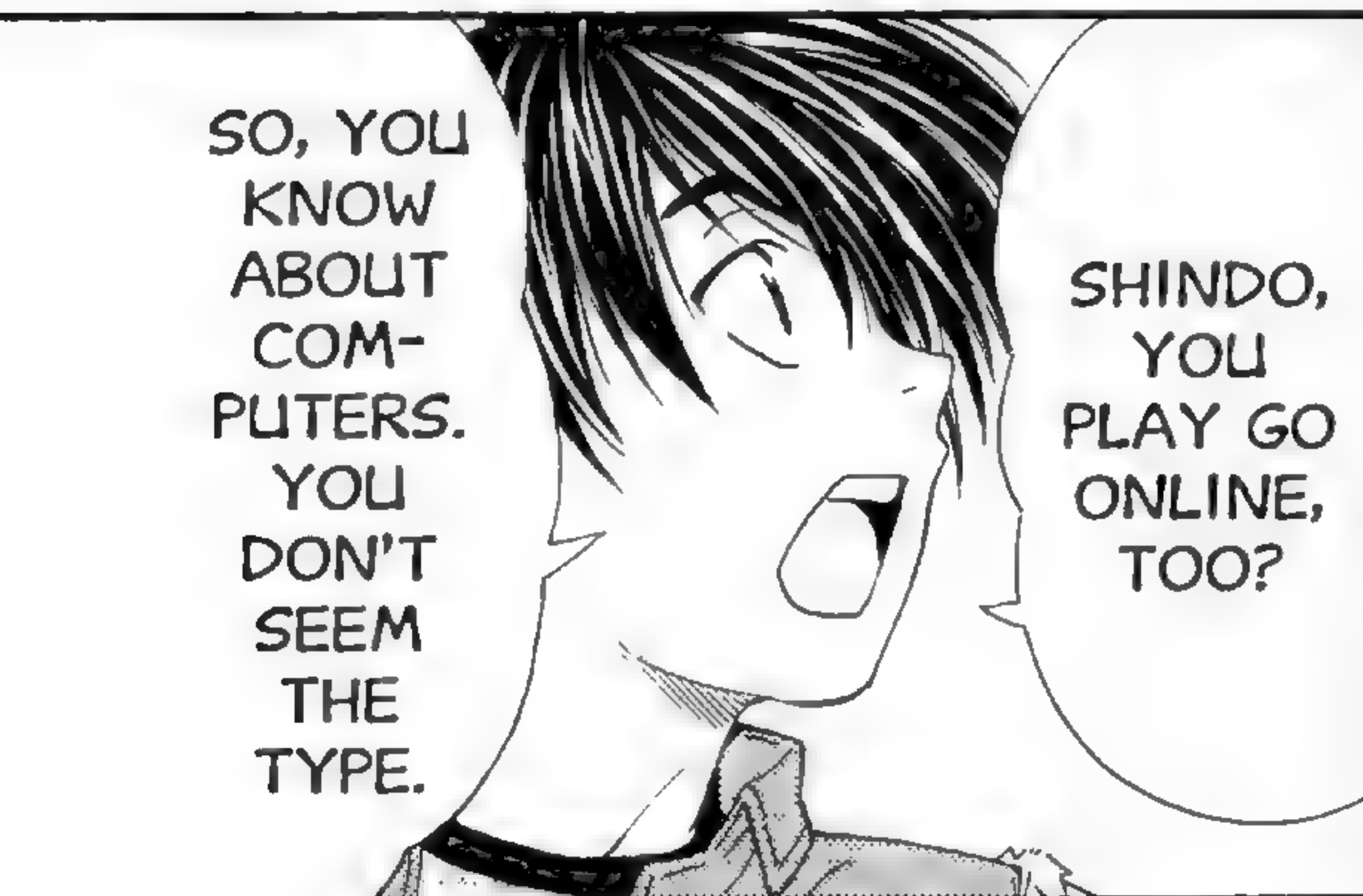








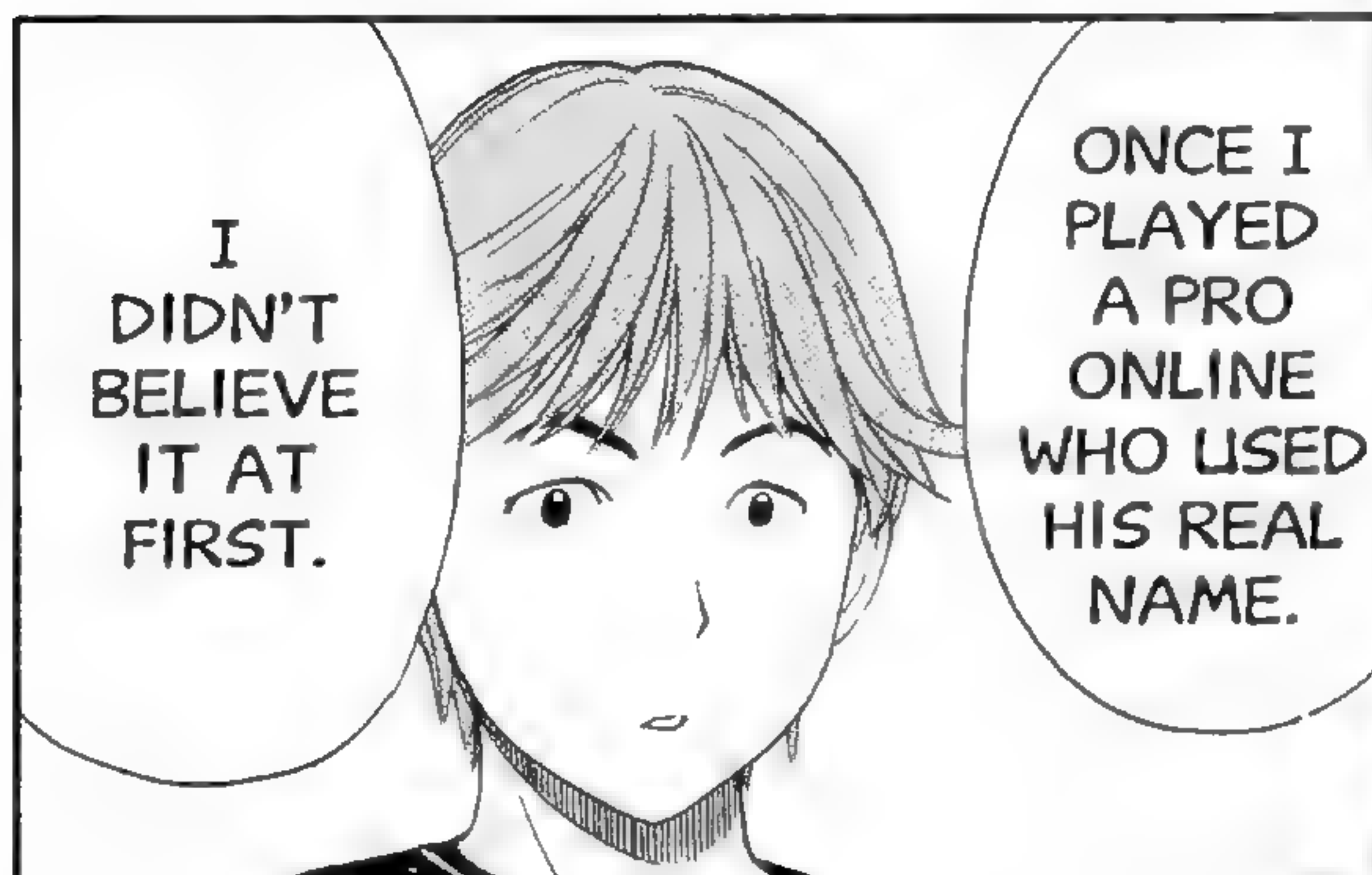






BUT THEY
DON'T USE
THEIR REAL
NAMES, SO
YOU NEVER
REALLY
KNOW.

YEAH,
THEY
PLAY
FOR FUN
SOME-
TIMES.



I
DIDN'T
BELIEVE
IT AT
FIRST.

ONCE I
PLAYED
A PRO
ONLINE
WHO USED
HIS REAL
NAME.



DO
THEY
PLAY
WITH
AMA-
TEURS?

PROS GO
ONLINE,
TOO.

THERE
ARE A FEW.
THEY MAKE
FOR PRETTY
GOOD
PRACTICE.



WHO
WAS
IT?

AND?

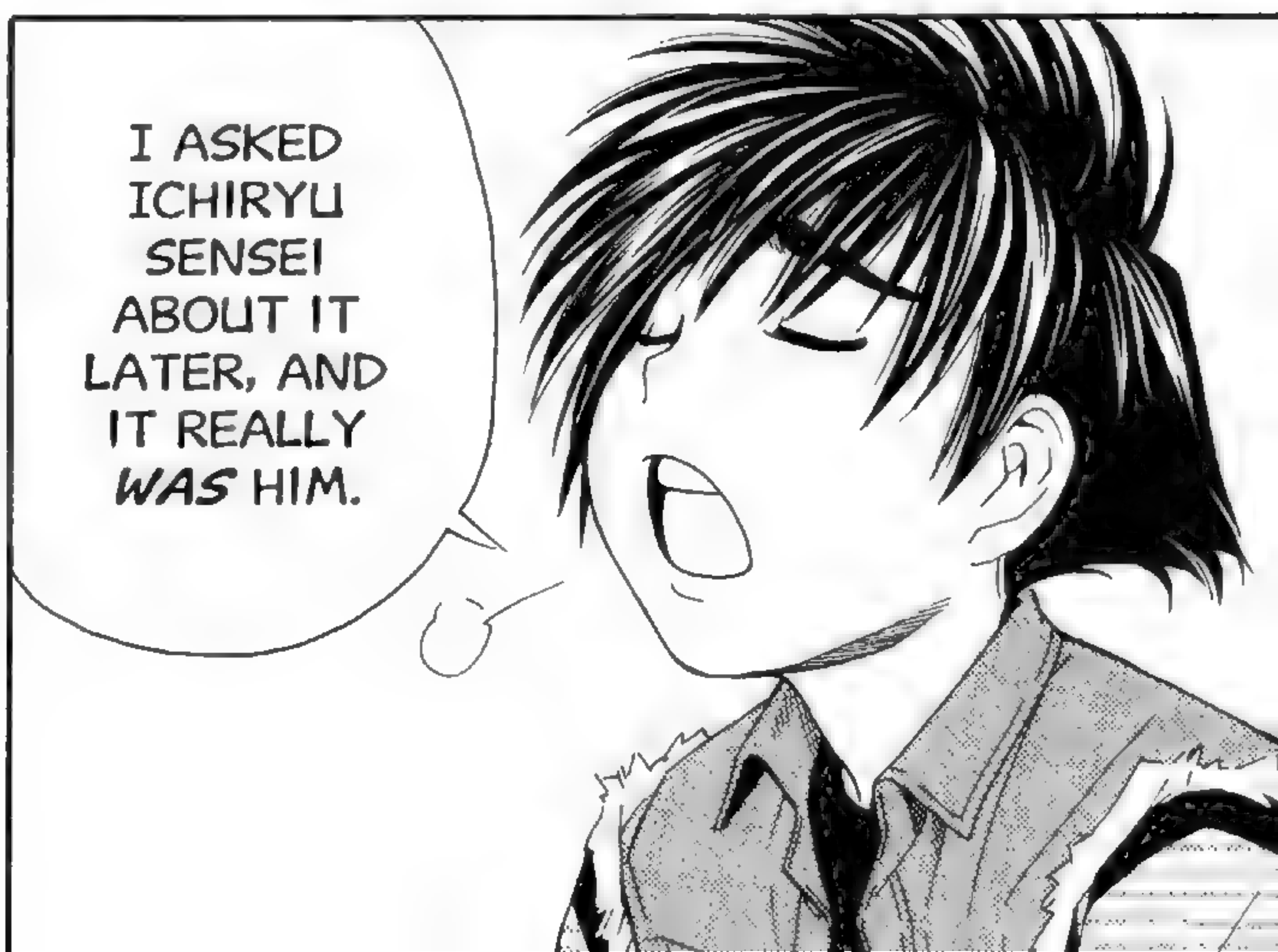
HE WAS
FOR
REAL.

I THOUGHT
IT WAS SOME
AMATEUR
USING THE
NAME.

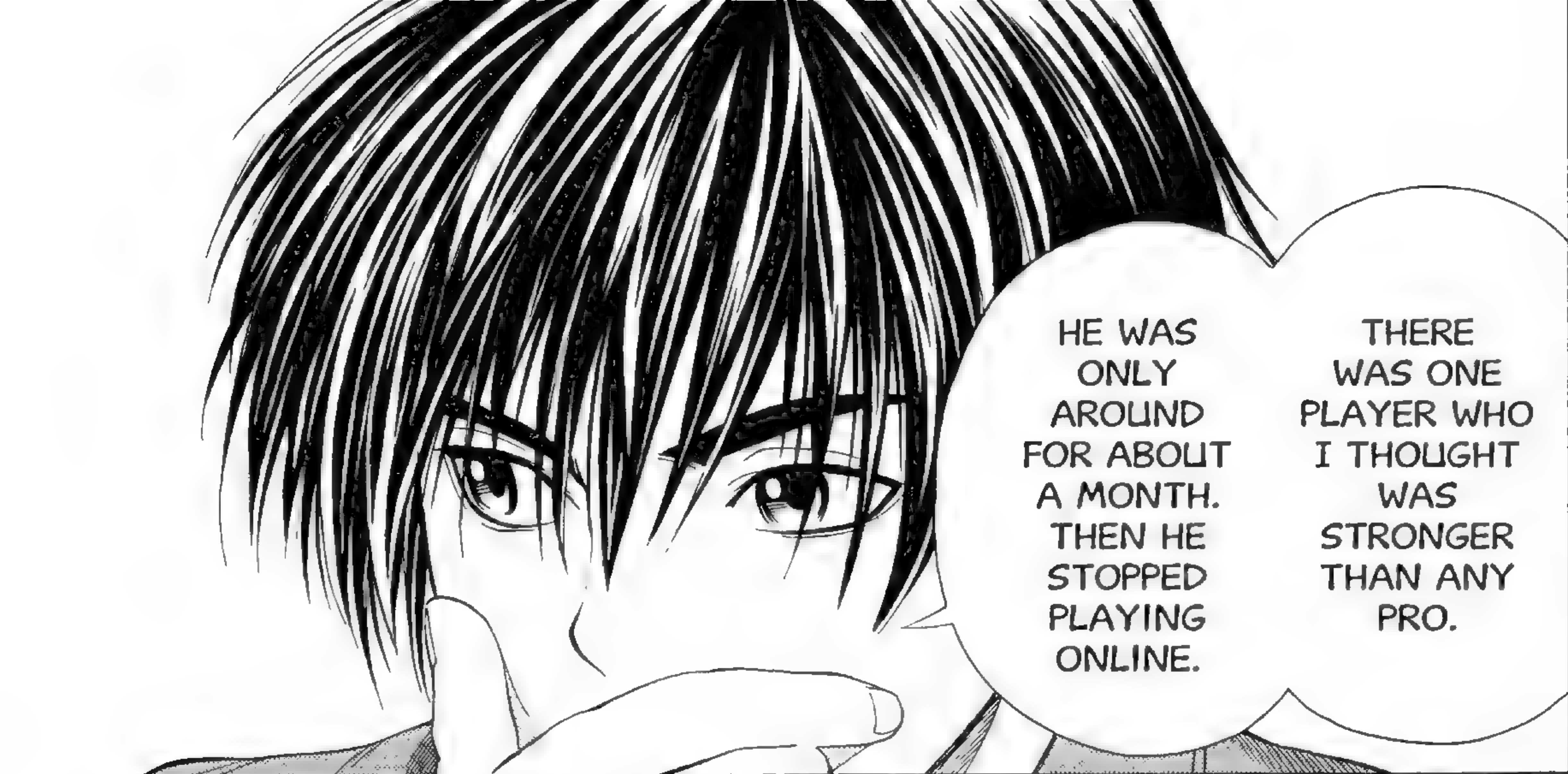


BUT
IT'S
NOT
JUST
PROS.

HA
HA
HA



I ASKED
ICHIRYU
SENSEI
ABOUT IT
LATER, AND
IT REALLY
WAS HIM.



HE WAS
ONLY
AROUND
FOR ABOUT
A MONTH.
THEN HE
STOPPED
PLAYING
ONLINE.

THERE
WAS ONE
PLAYER WHO
I THOUGHT
WAS
STRONGER
THAN ANY
PRO.



INTERNET
GO SOUNDS
LIKE FUN.



"STRONGER
THAN ANY PRO."
"PLAYED FOR
ABOUT A MONTH!"



HIS
NAME
WAS
SAI.



I KNEW
IT.

Oh my.



WAYA,
WHAT'S
HIS NAME?
THE
PLAYER
WHO'S
STRONGER
THAN
ANY PRO,
I MEAN?

WELL,
SHOW
ME HOW,
OKAY?

SURE.



I GUESS SO.
HE WAS
JUST ONE OF
A HUNDRED
PEOPLE THAT
YOU PLAYED.

We
played
against
Wayu?

I PLAYED
HIM ONLY
ONCE, BUT
I WATCHED
HIM PLAY
LOTS OF
TIMES.

SAI WAS
ON THE
INTERNET
LAST
SUMMER.



THAT
I KNEW...

AKIRA
TOYA
EVEN
SKIPPED
THE FIRST
DAY OF HIS
PRO TEST
TO PLAY
HIM.

HE WAS
INCREDIBLE.



SO FAR
AS I KNOW,
HE'S NEVER
LOST A
GAME.

HE WAS REALLY
STRONG. SO FAR
AS I KNOW, HE
NEVER LOST
A GAME.



THERE
ARE
PROS IN
KOREA,
TOO?

AND
HE DIDN'T
BEAT JUST
AMATEURS.
HE BEAT A
PRO FROM
KOREA.







A WORD ABOUT HIKARU NO GO

FOREIGN TRANSLATIONS OF THE MANGA



THAI VERSION

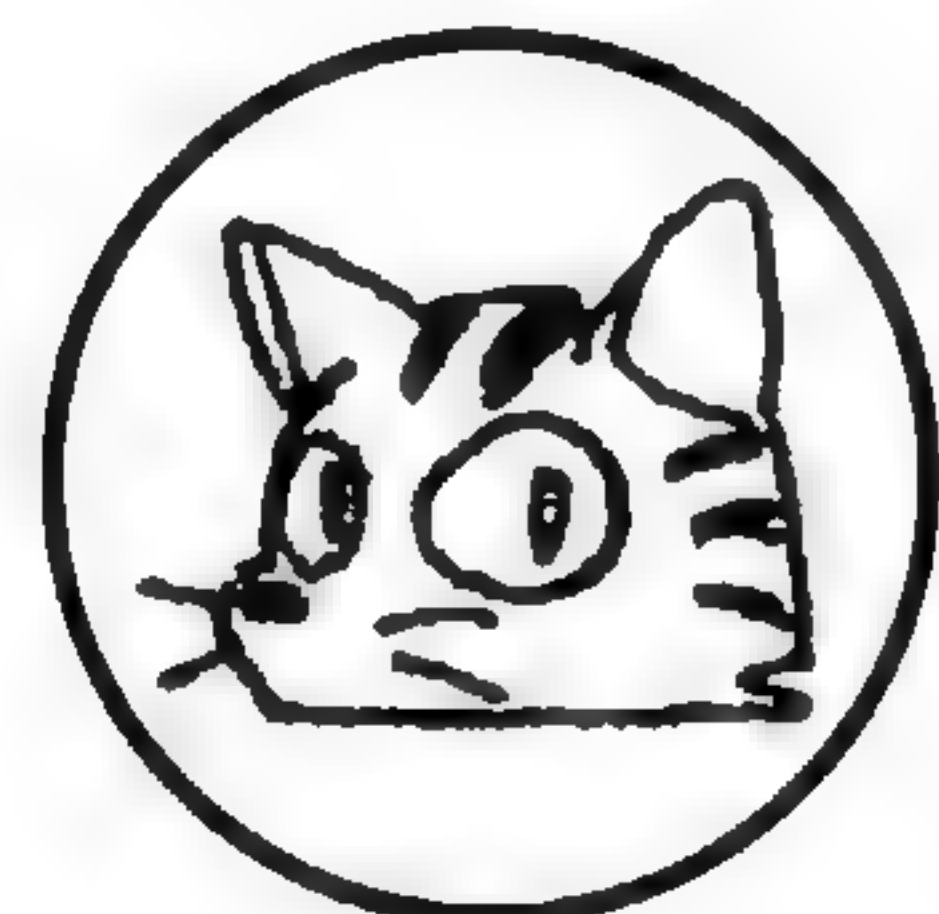


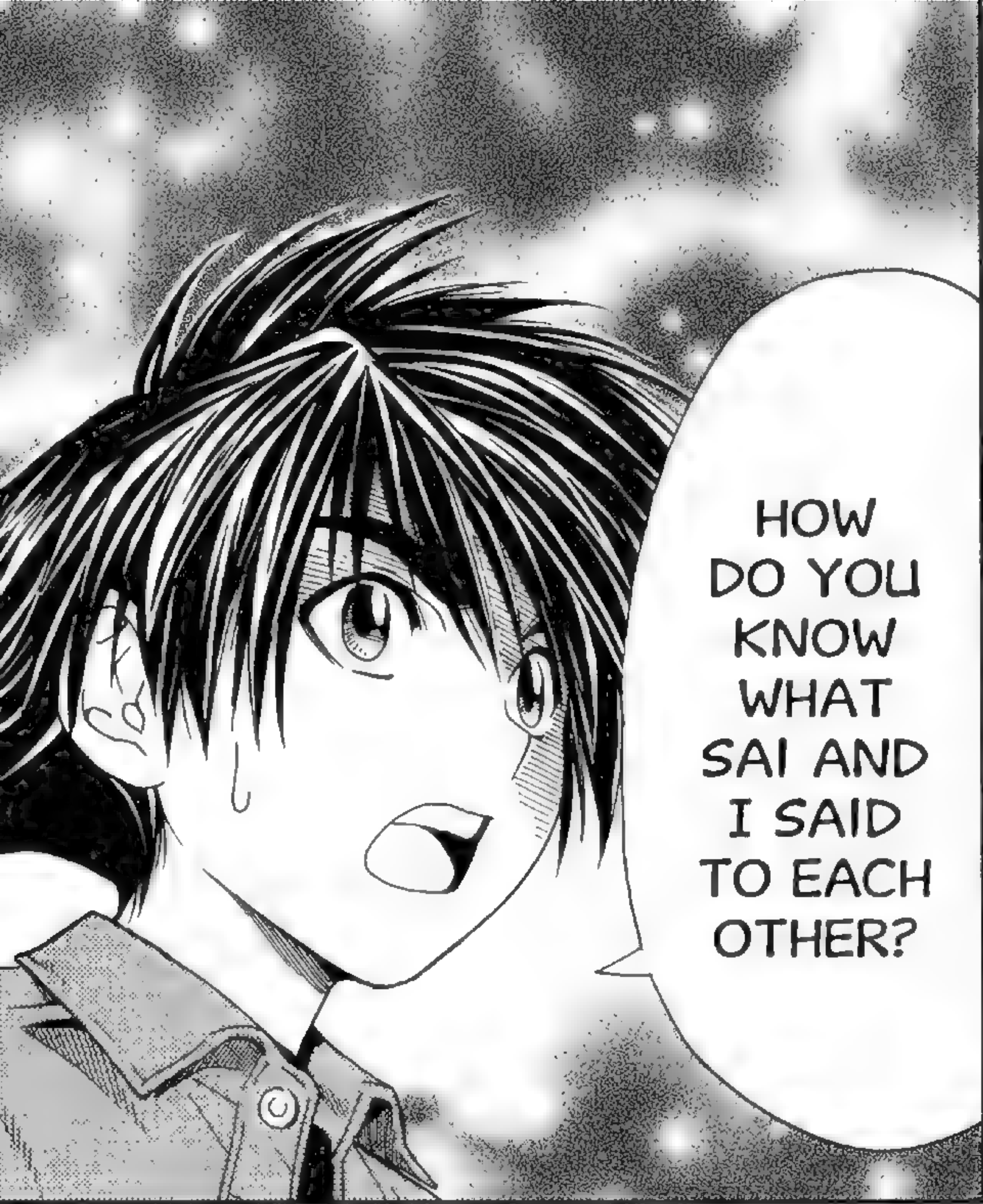
HONG KONG VERSION

TAIWAN, THAILAND, HONG KONG, SINGAPORE, KOREA...

IN TAIWAN, *HIKARU NO GO* IS CALLED *GO PLAYER SPIRIT KING*, WHILE IN HONG KONG IT'S *GO PLAYER SPIRIT*. THE THAI VERSION READS FROM RIGHT TO LEFT, AND THE HONG KONG VERSION INCLUDES ARTICLES ABOUT THE HONG KONG GO ASSOCIATION.

IT'S FUN SEEING ALL THE DIFFERENT TRANSLATIONS.





HOW
DO YOU
KNOW
WHAT
SAI AND
I SAID
TO EACH
OTHER?



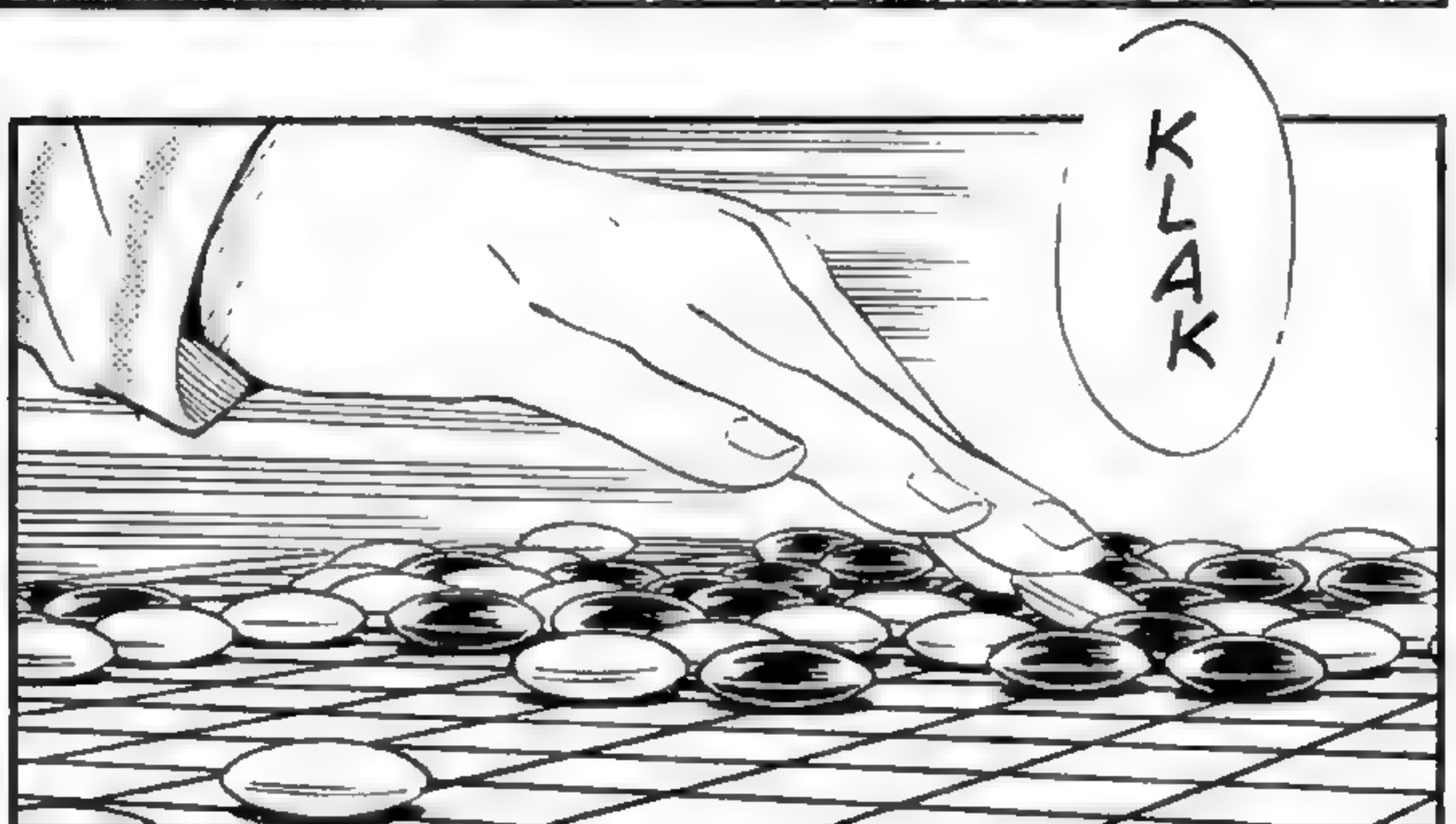
YOU
SAID,
"I'M AN
INSEI"!

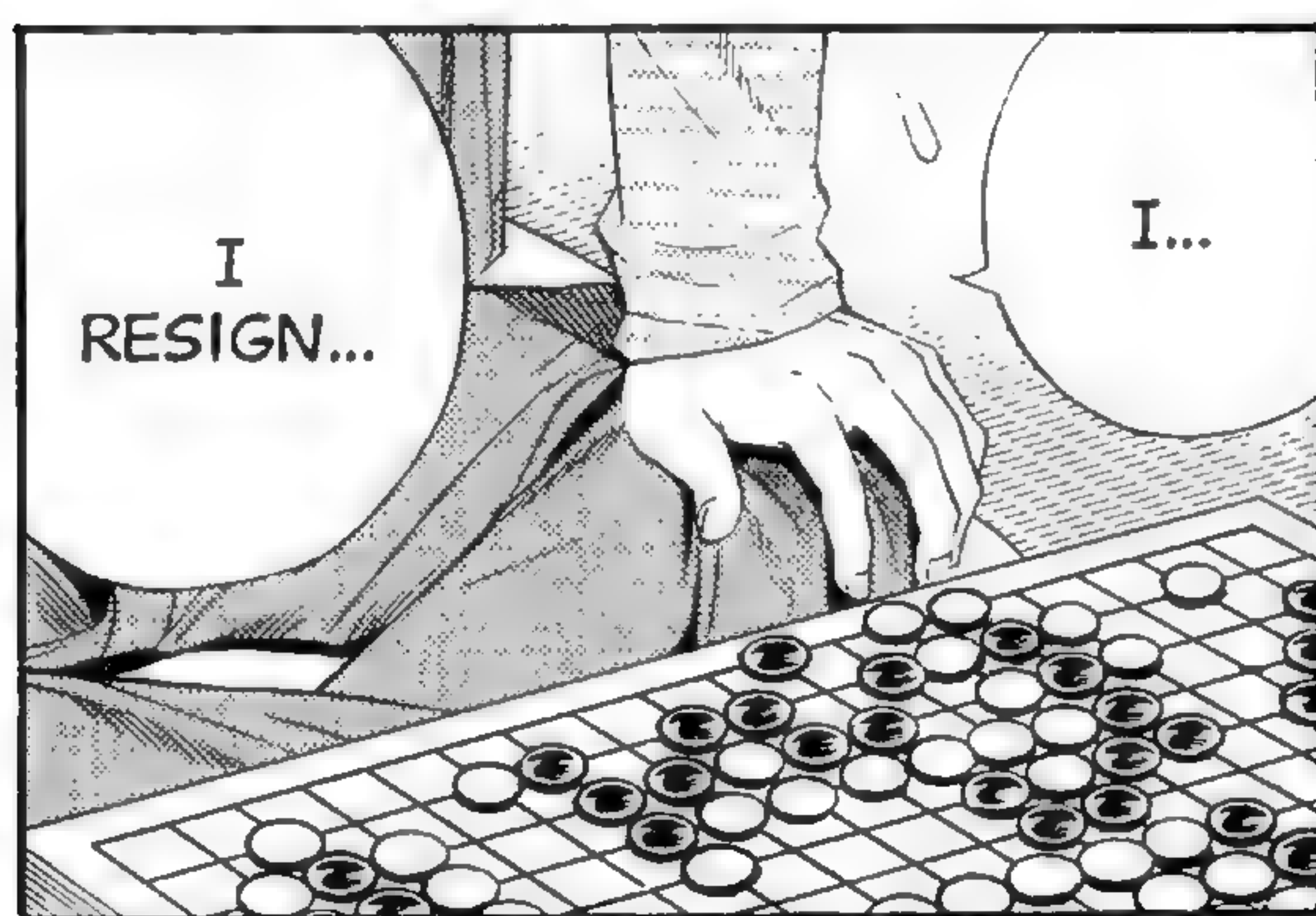
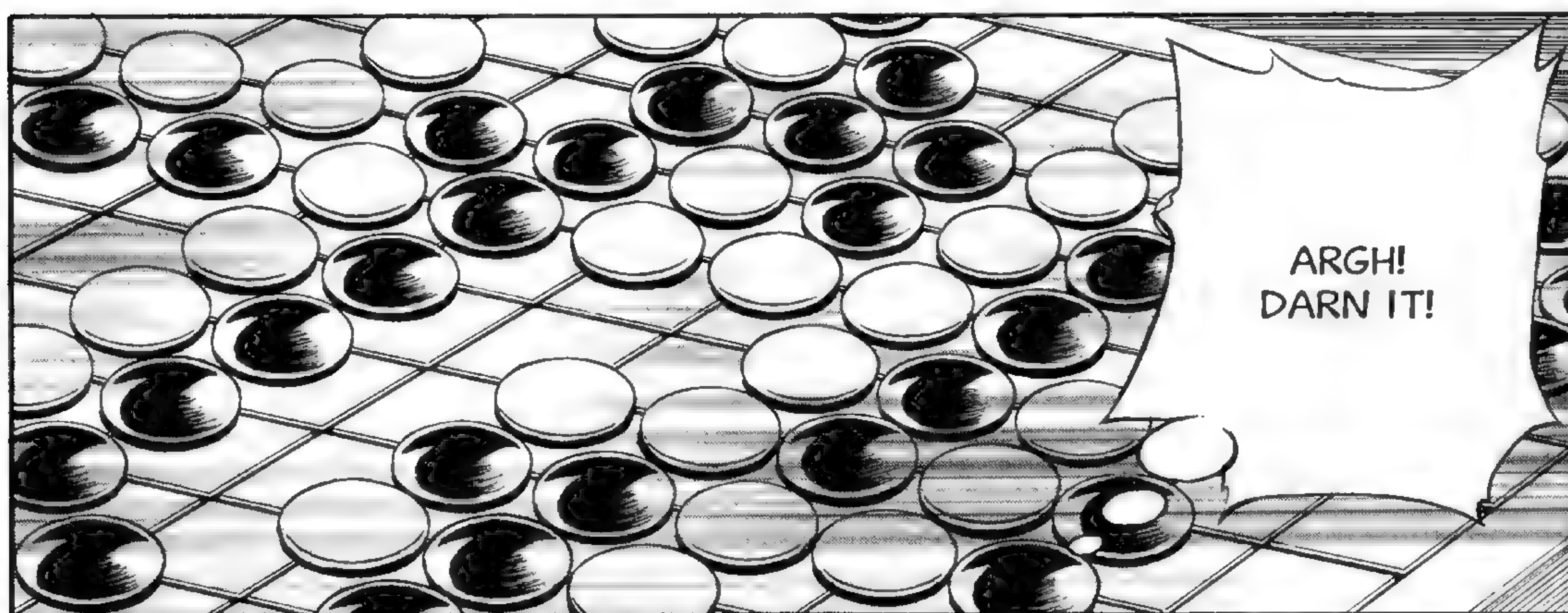
WAYA!
YOU'RE
ZELDA?!

Game 56: "Sai's Student"

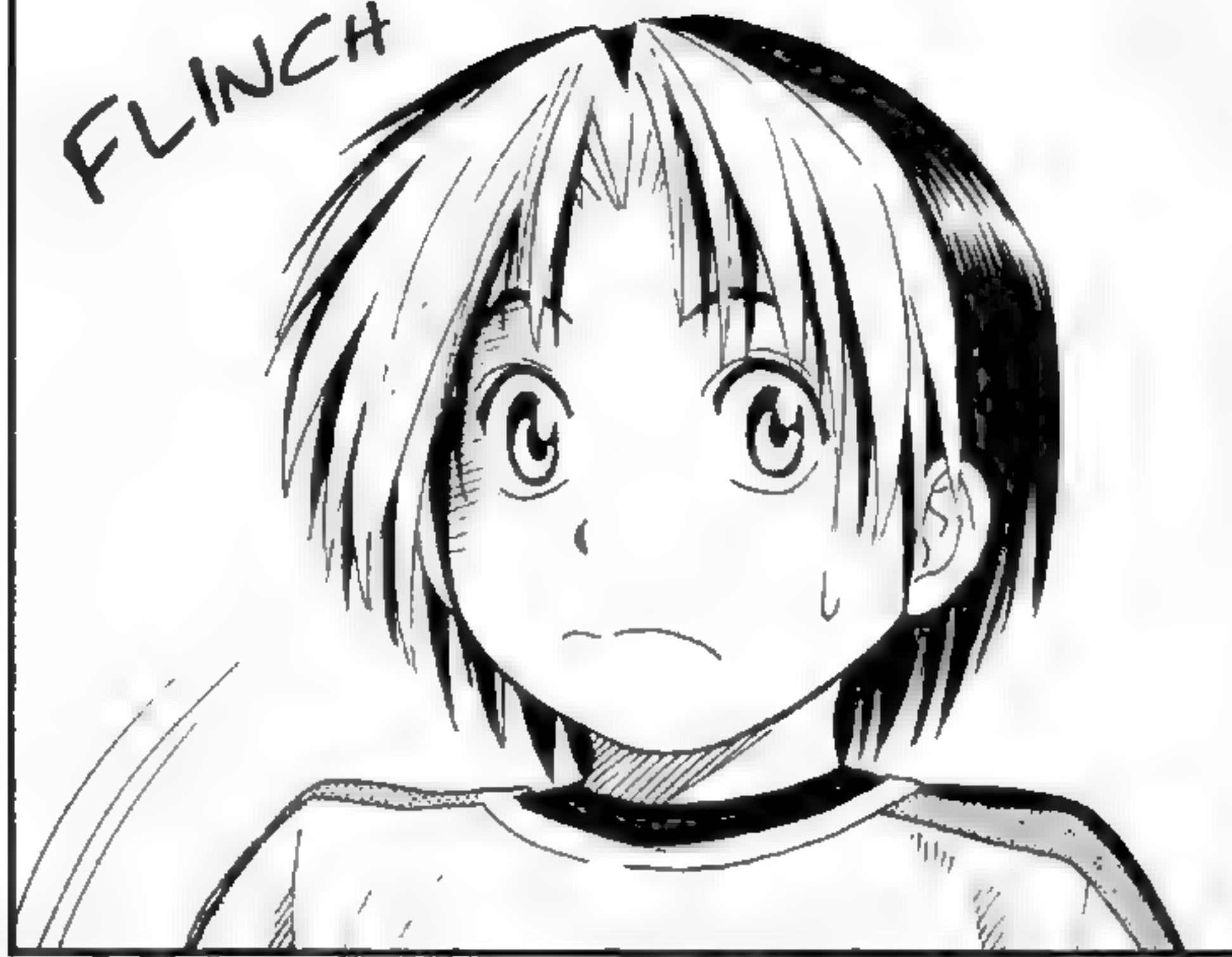








FLINCH



ARE
YOU—

SHINDO...

YOU WERE
WATCHING
WHEN WE
PLAYED!

ARE
YOU ONE
OF SAI'S
STUDENTS?

Close!
Hikaru was
actually in
front of
me at the
time!

IF
YOU ARE
STUDYING
UNDER
SAI...

IS THAT
BECAUSE...

YOU SAID
BEFORE THAT
AKIRA TOYA
WAS AFTER
YOU.





THAT'S
WHEN I SAW
THE CHAT
BETWEEN SAI
AND ZELDA.
I REMEMBERED
IT BECAUSE IT
WAS KIND OF
FUNNY.

ONE TIME,
THERE WAS A
GO GAME ON
ONE OF THE
COMPUTERS.



I NEVER
SAW HIS
FACE.

WHO-
EVER
IT WAS,
HE LEFT
TOO
QUICKLY.



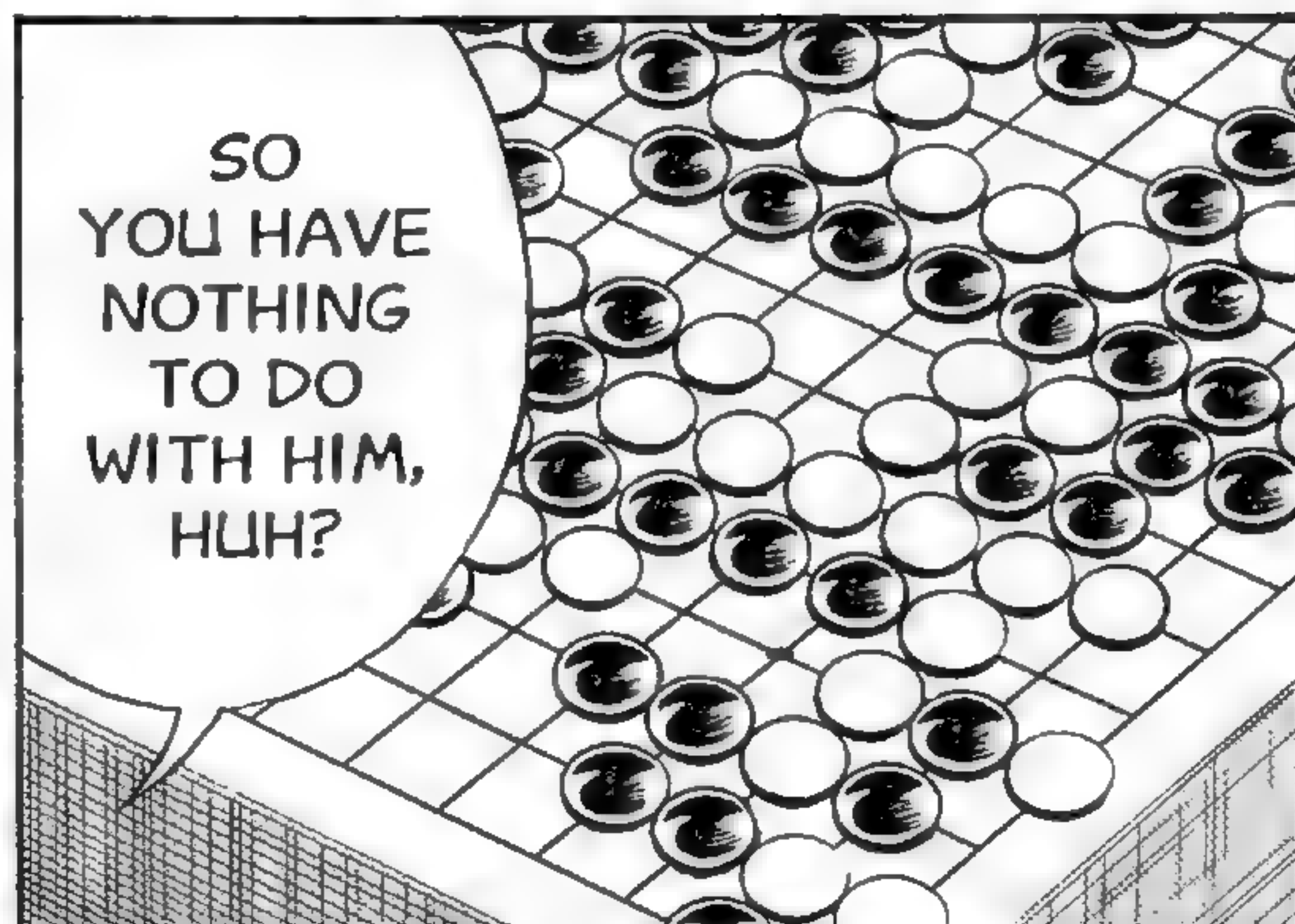
WHO WAS
PLAYING?

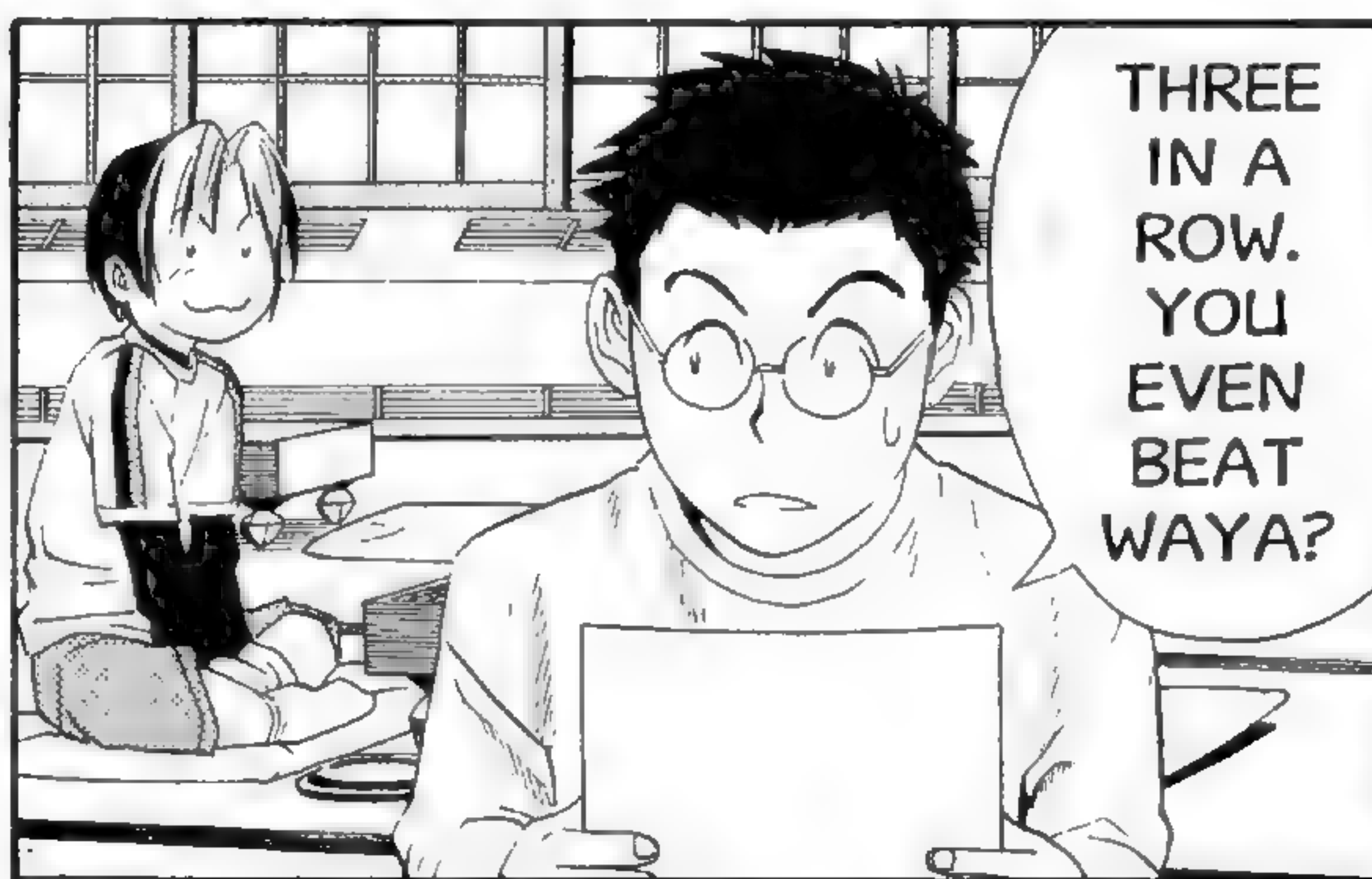
.....



I WONDER
WHO'S TO
BLAME
FOR THAT.

Hikaru,
you've gotten
pretty good
at lying.

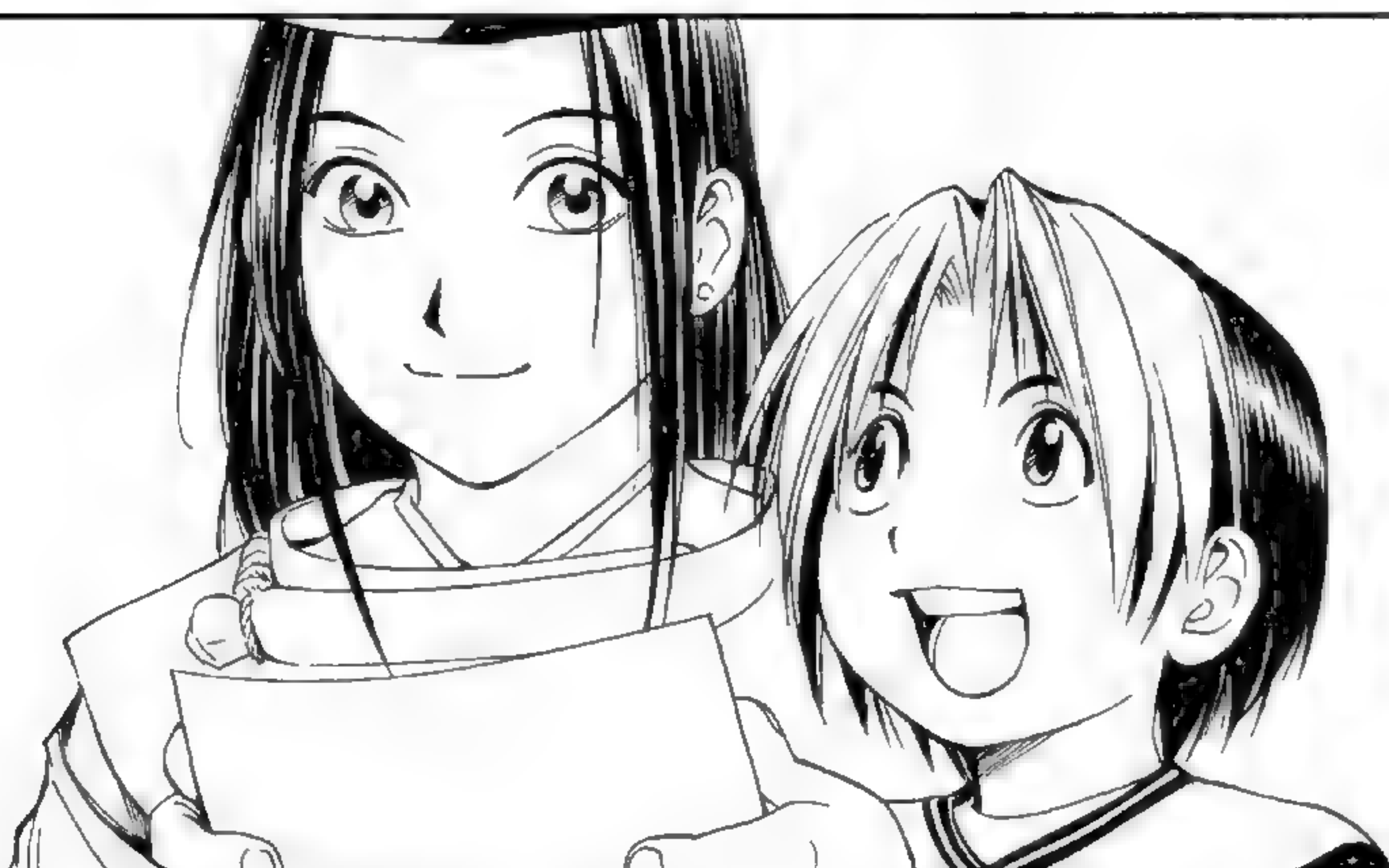




BY THE TIME
I FINALLY
GOT A WIN,
IT WAS THE
END OF APRIL.



BUT MY
LOSING
STREAK
CAME
BACK THE
NEXT
STUDY
SESSION.



I WAS
RANKED
16TH IN
A LEAGUE.

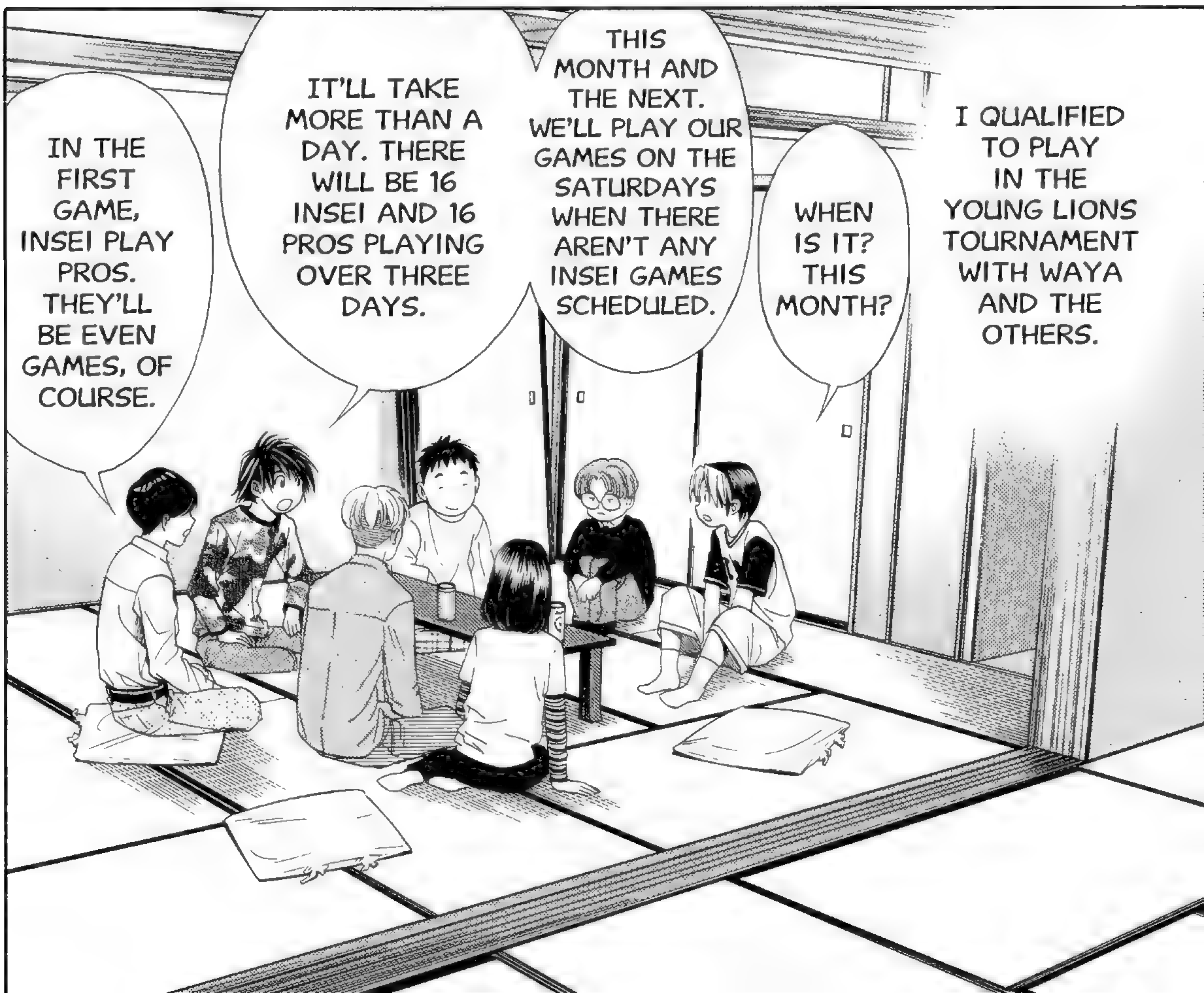
IN THE
FIRST
GAME,
INSEI PLAY
PROS.
THEY'LL
BE EVEN
GAMES, OF
COURSE.

IT'LL TAKE
MORE THAN A
DAY. THERE
WILL BE 16
INSEI AND 16
PROS PLAYING
OVER THREE
DAYS.

THIS
MONTH AND
THE NEXT.
WE'LL PLAY OUR
GAMES ON THE
SATURDAYS
WHEN THERE
AREN'T ANY
INSEI GAMES
SCHEDULED.

WHEN
IS IT?
THIS
MONTH?

I QUALIFIED
TO PLAY
IN THE
YOUNG LIONS
TOURNAMENT
WITH WAYA
AND THE
OTHERS.







BACK
THEN I
COULDN'T
ANSWER
YOU. BUT I
CAN NOW!

AKIRA!



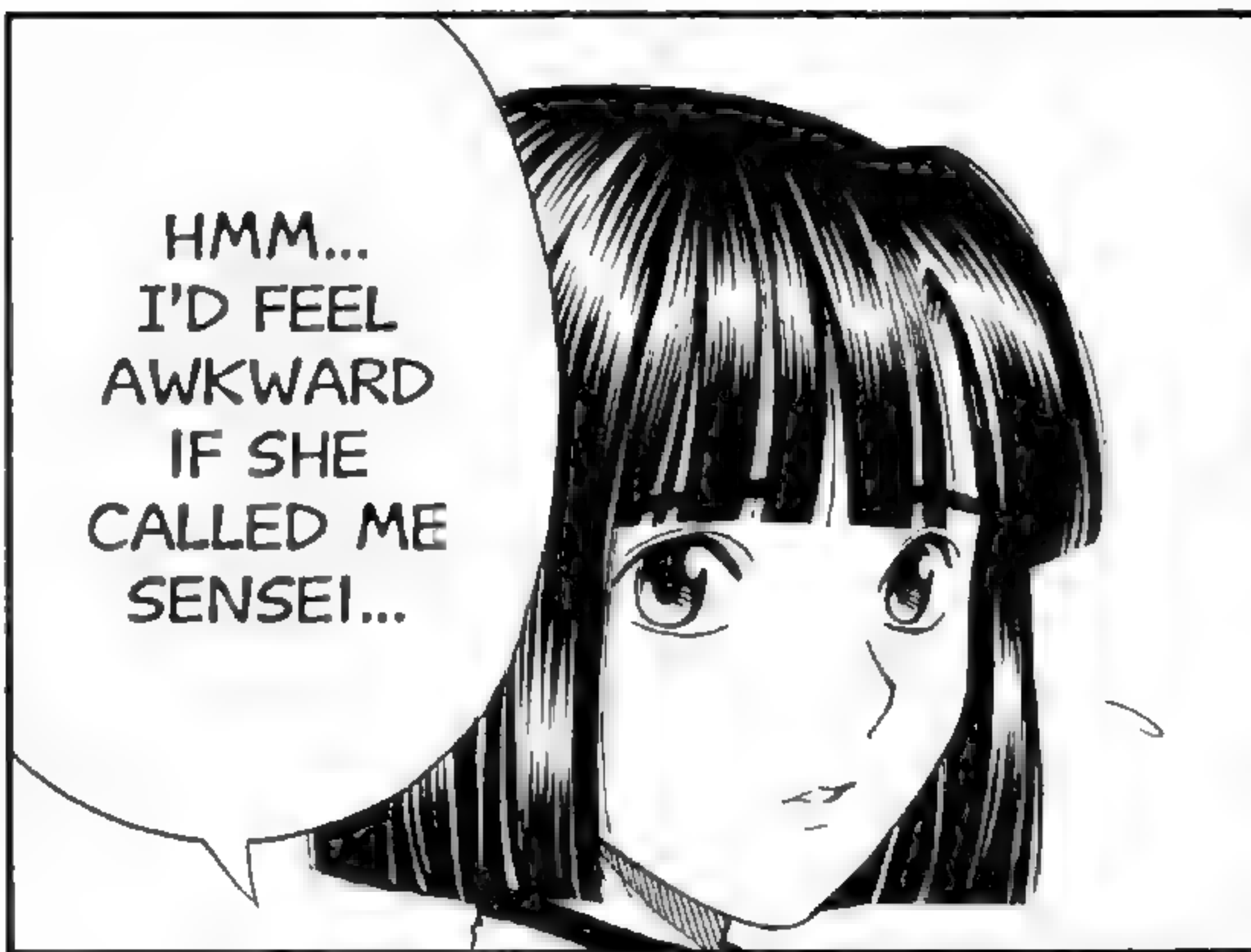
WHY
WAIT INTIL
SOMEDAY?
WHY DON'T WE
PLAY A GAME
RIGHT NOW?



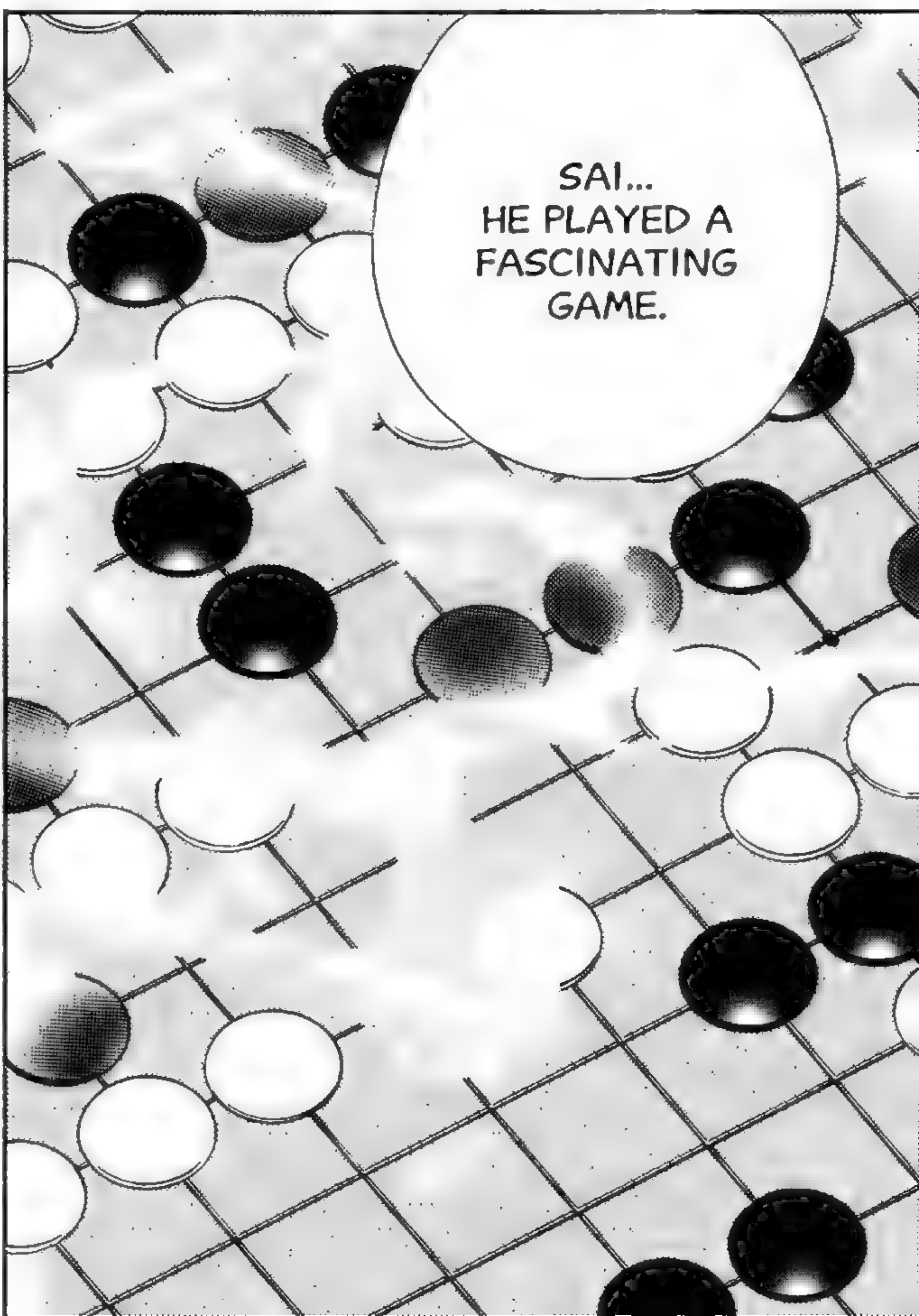
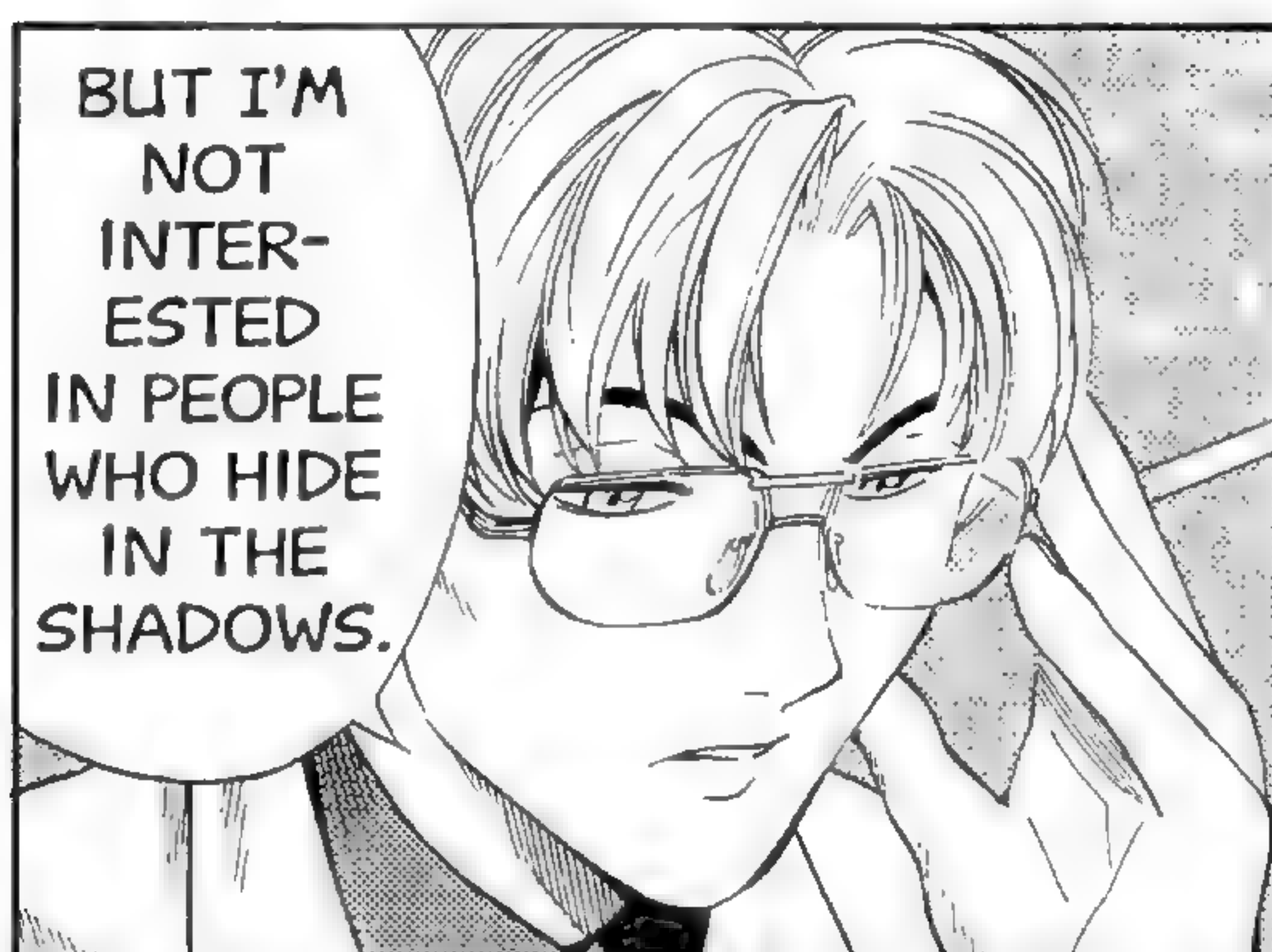
LET'S PLAY!

COME
ON!

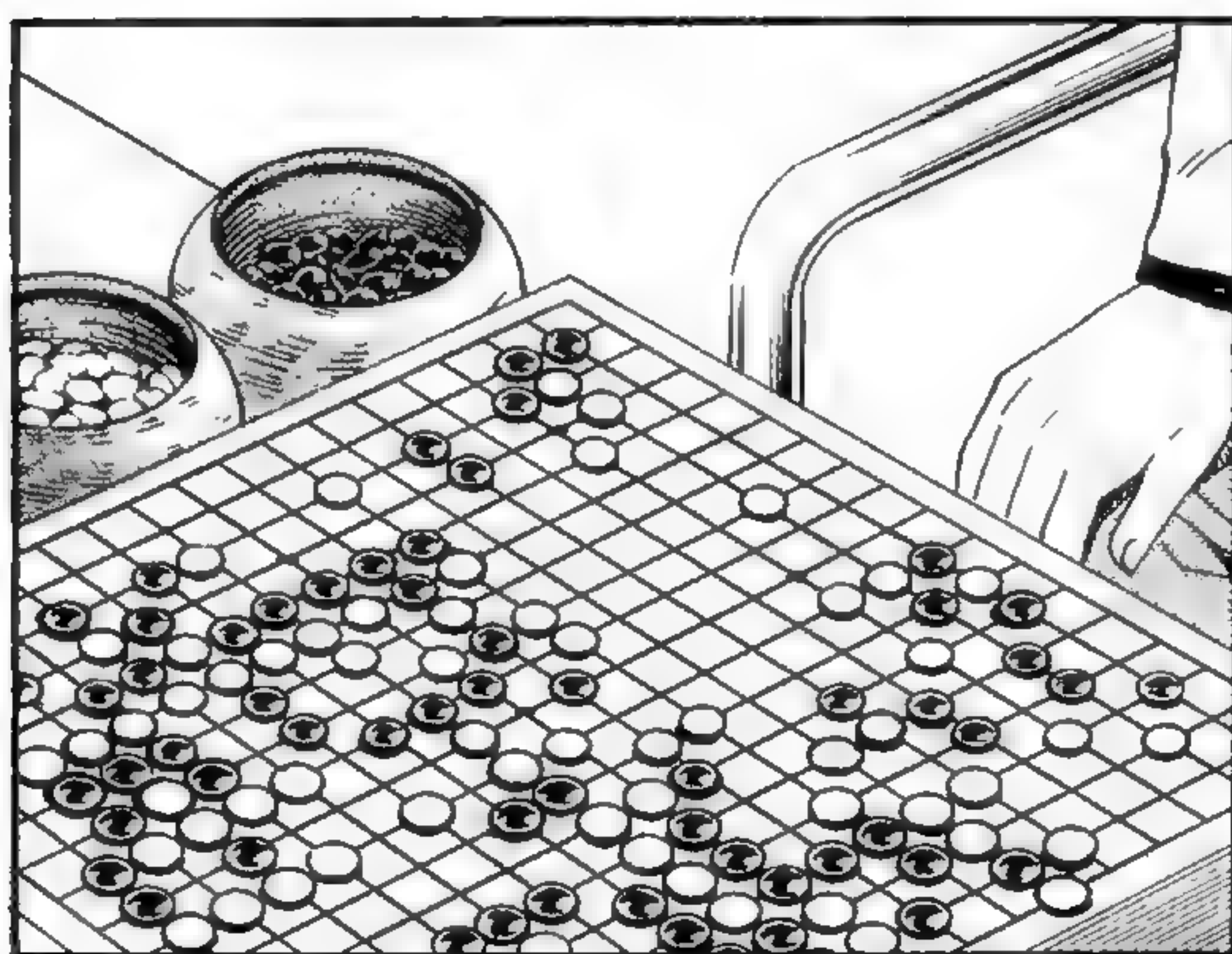


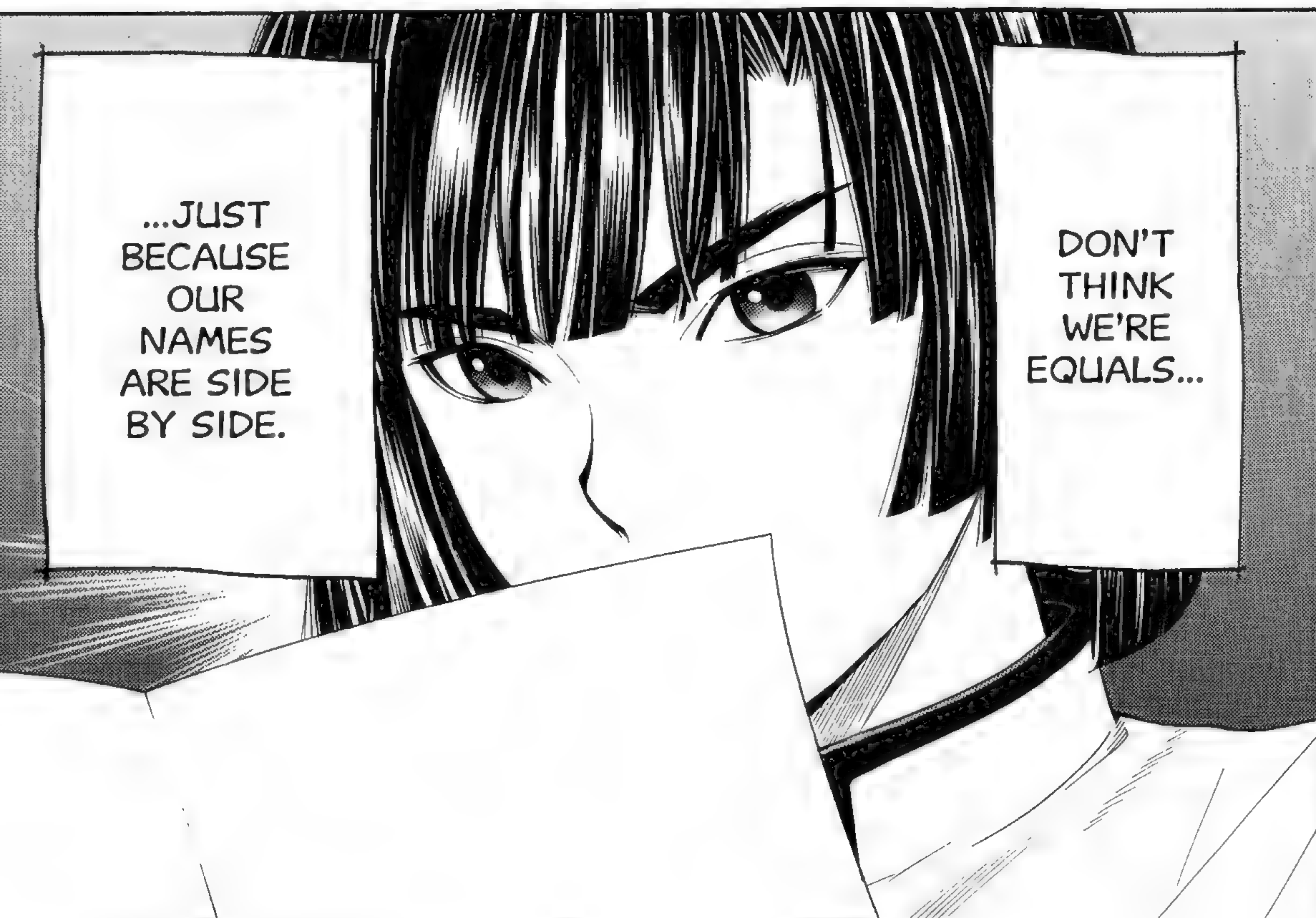
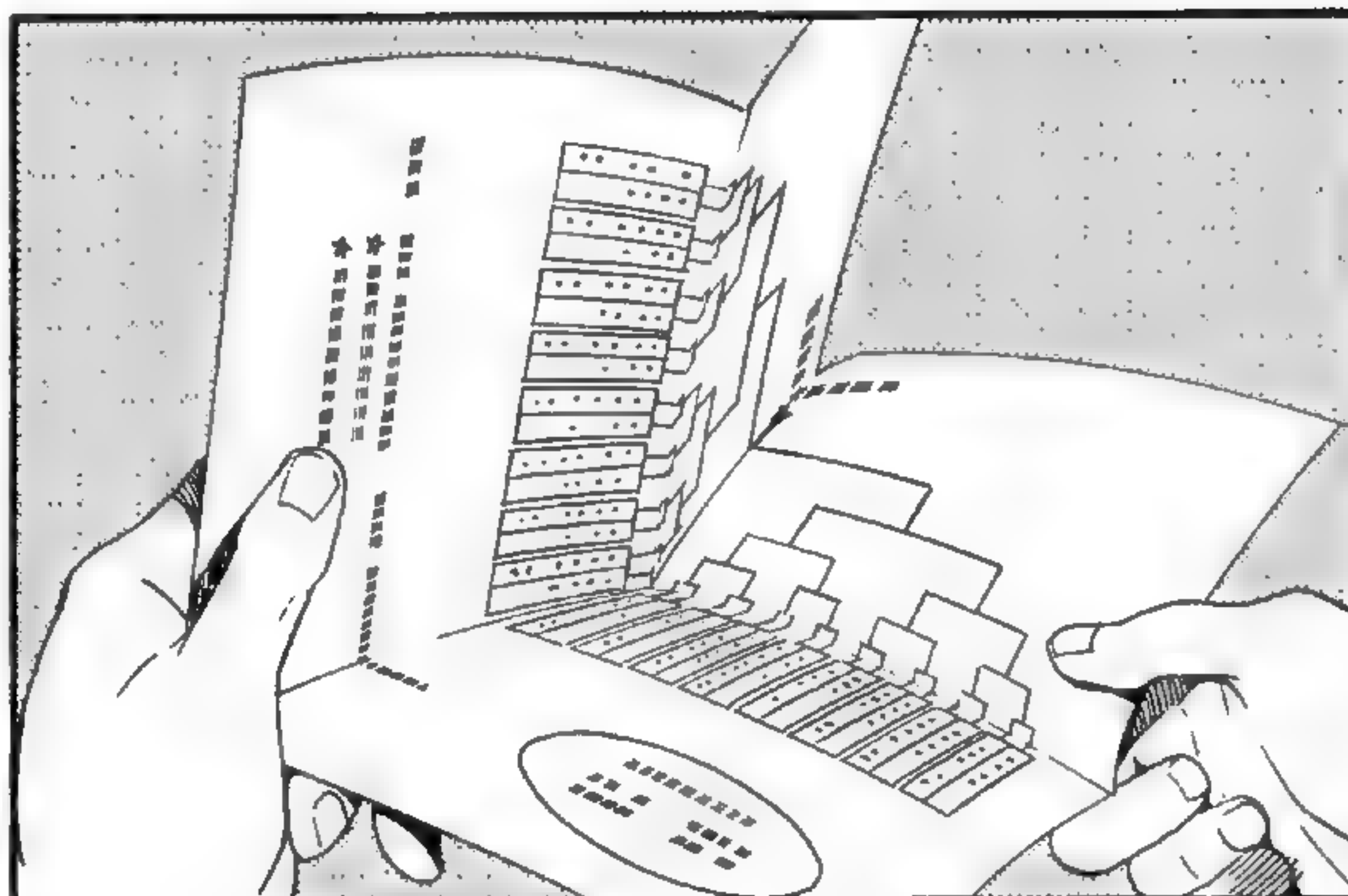
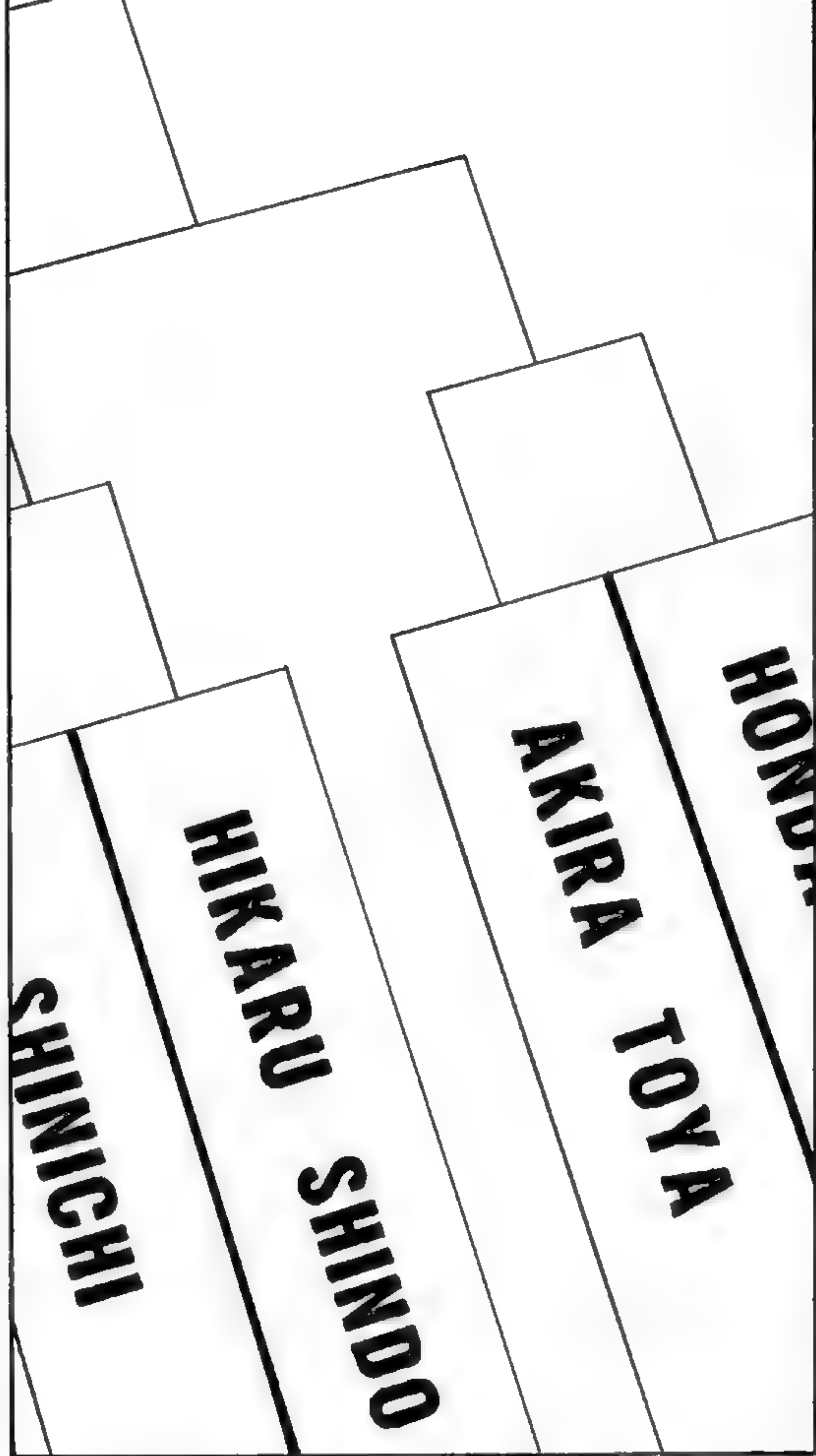












There's this manga
I work on, and...



WHEN I DO
RESEARCH AT
A GO SALON, I
ALWAYS BRING
A COPY OF THE
MANGA TO
SHOW PEOPLE.

HIKARU NO GO STORYBOARDS

19

YUMI
HOTTA



What?!



Hmm... So it's
a manga about
Shogi*, eh?



AT A CERTAIN GO
SALON, I SHOWED
THEM VOLUME 5.

*Shogi is a bit like chess.

...TETSUO
KAGA HAS
A SHOGI
PIECE ON
HIS SHIRT.



ON THE
COVER OF
VOLUME 5...

I PANICKED
AND LIED...

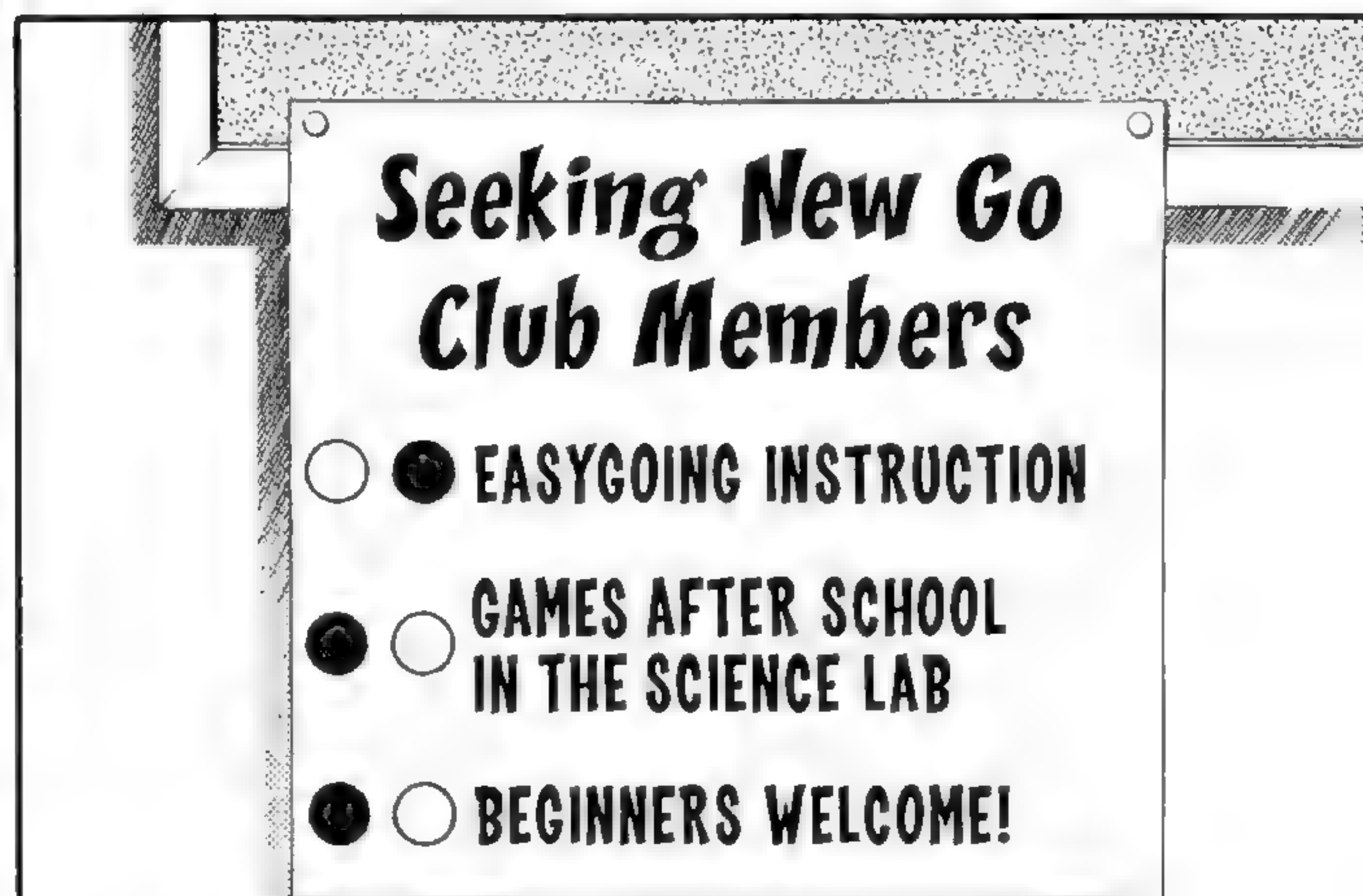
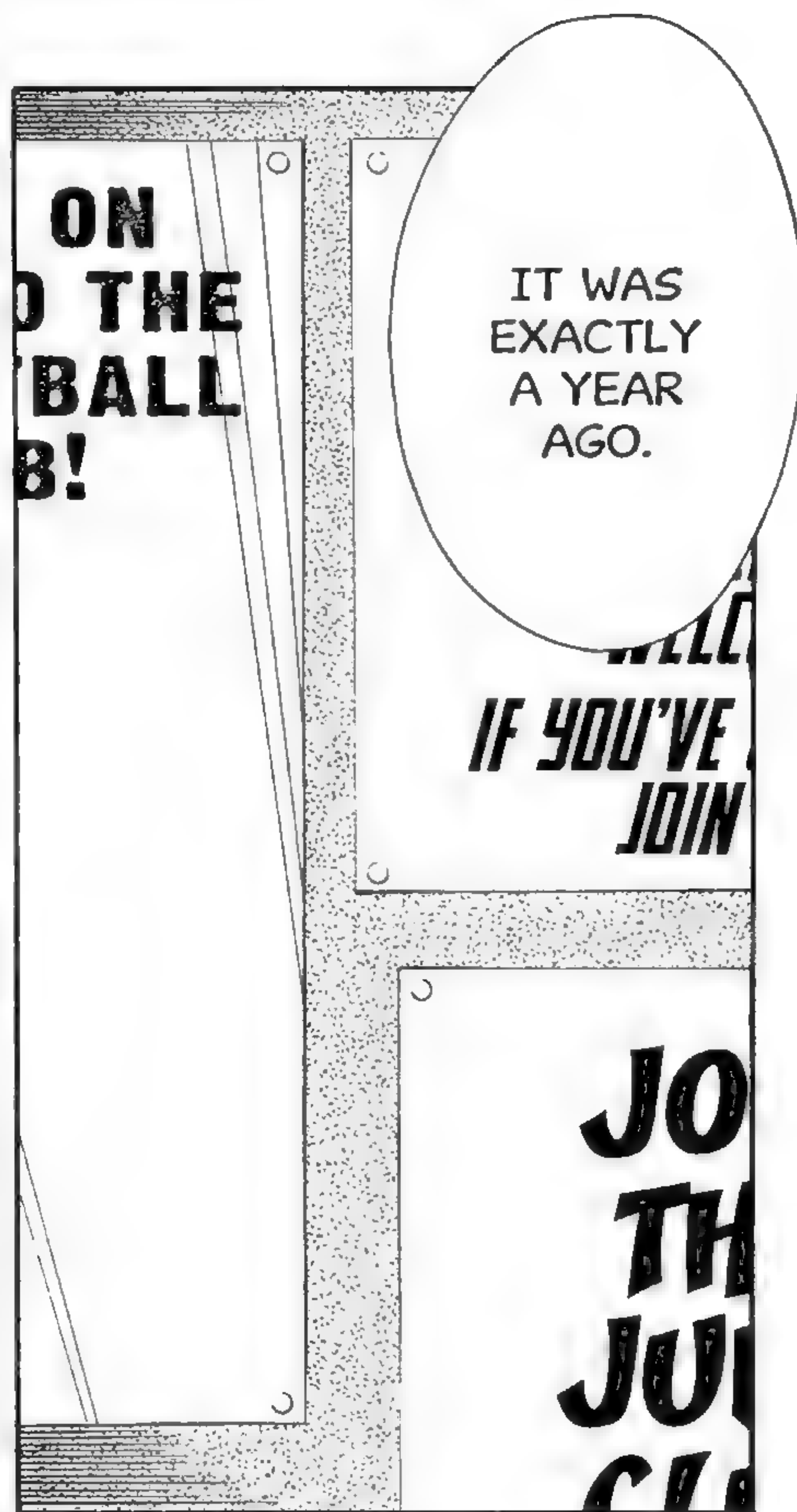
Umm, uh... That character's in the Shogi
club. He's not the main character, but he's
on the cover because... uh, I guess it was
his turn to be
on the cover,
umm...

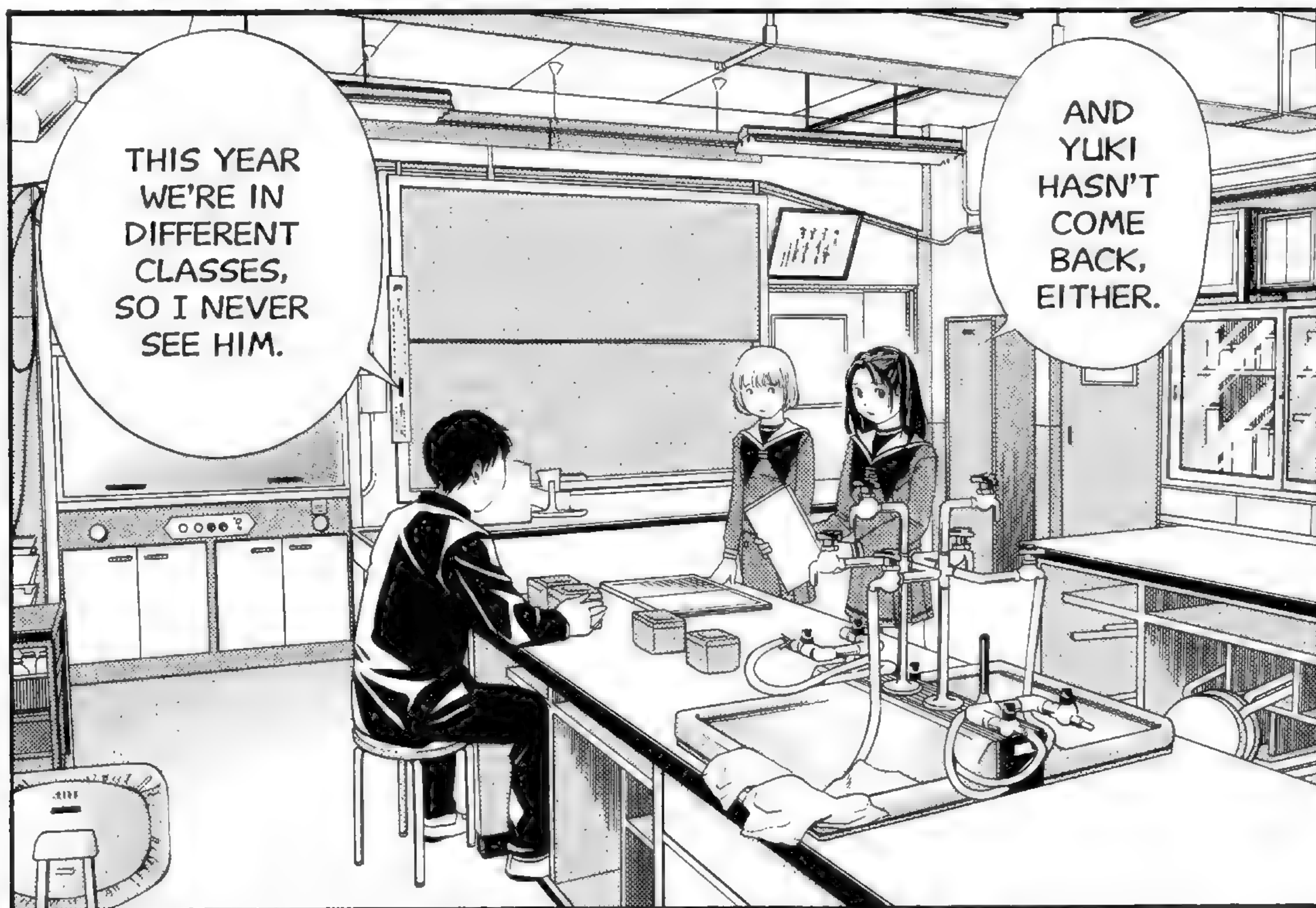


THINGS
GOT EVEN
HARDER TO
EXPLAIN.



Game 57 "And Then..."







YOU
GIRLS
ARE
LUCKY.



SO
THERE'S
THREE
OF US!

I ALREADY
ASKED THAT
GIRL FROM
THE VOLLEY-
BALL CLUB
WHO PLAYS
GO.

SURE
WE
ARE.

WHAT?!
ARE WE
REALLY
GOING TO
BE IN IT?!



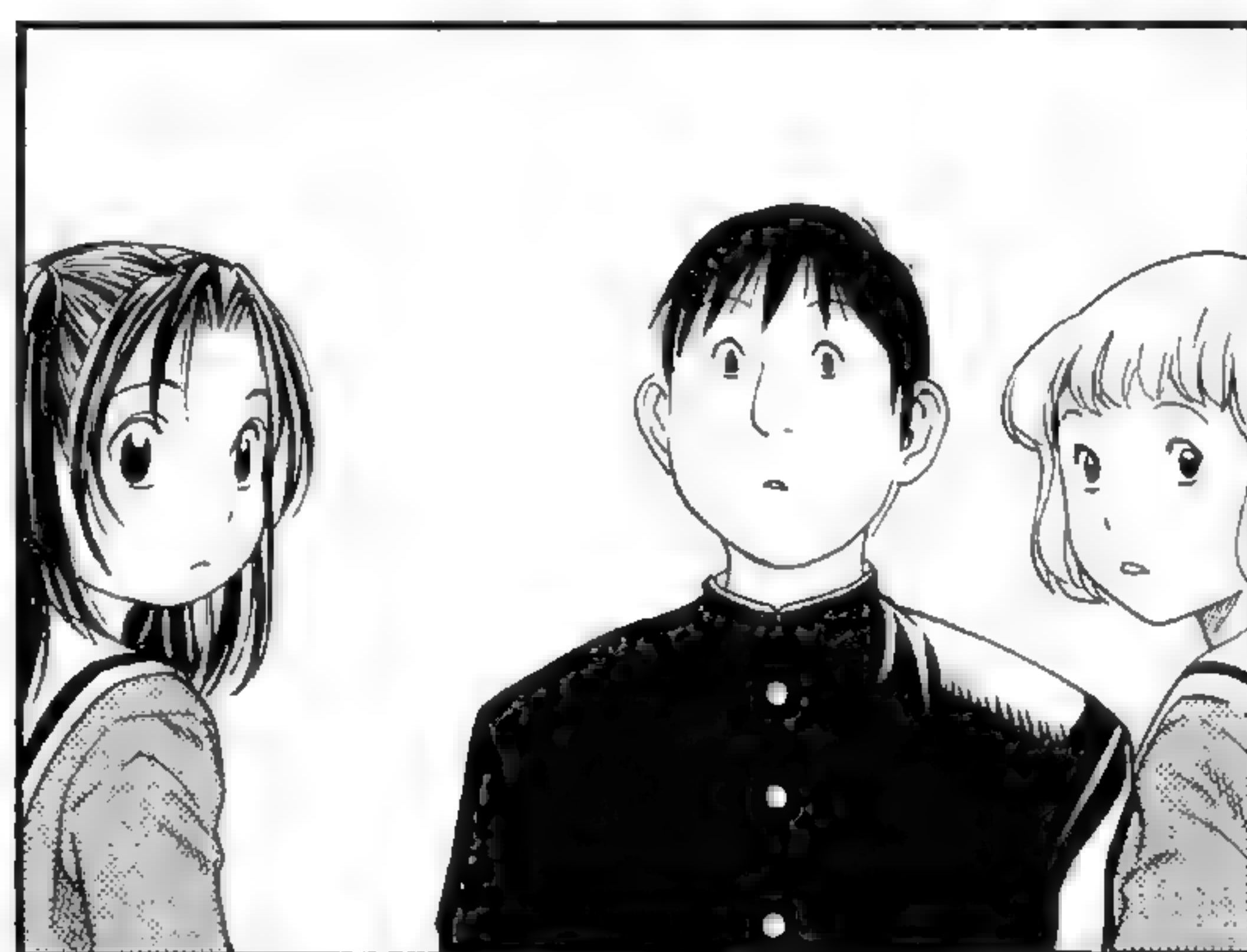
UH...

I'M THE
ONLY GUY,
SO THERE'S NO
CHANCE OF —

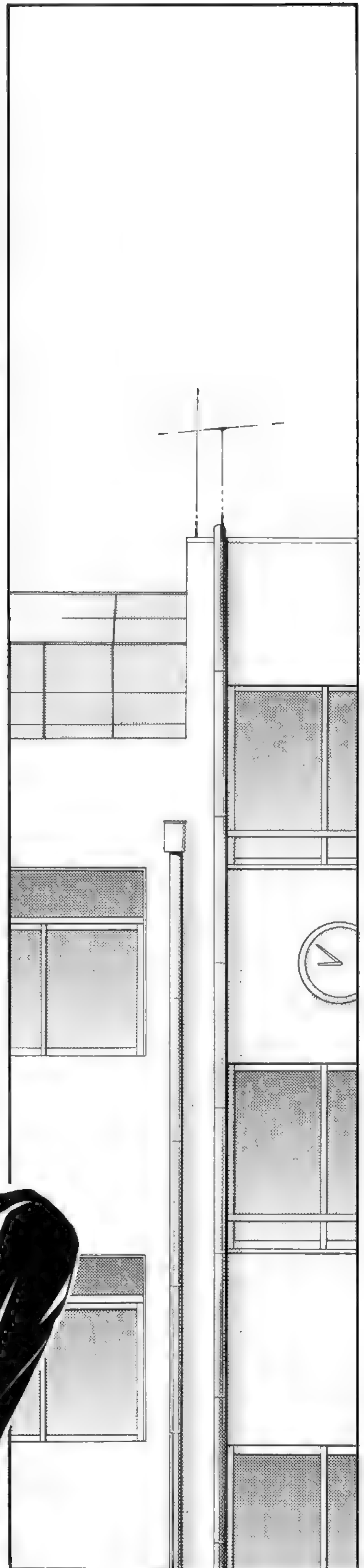


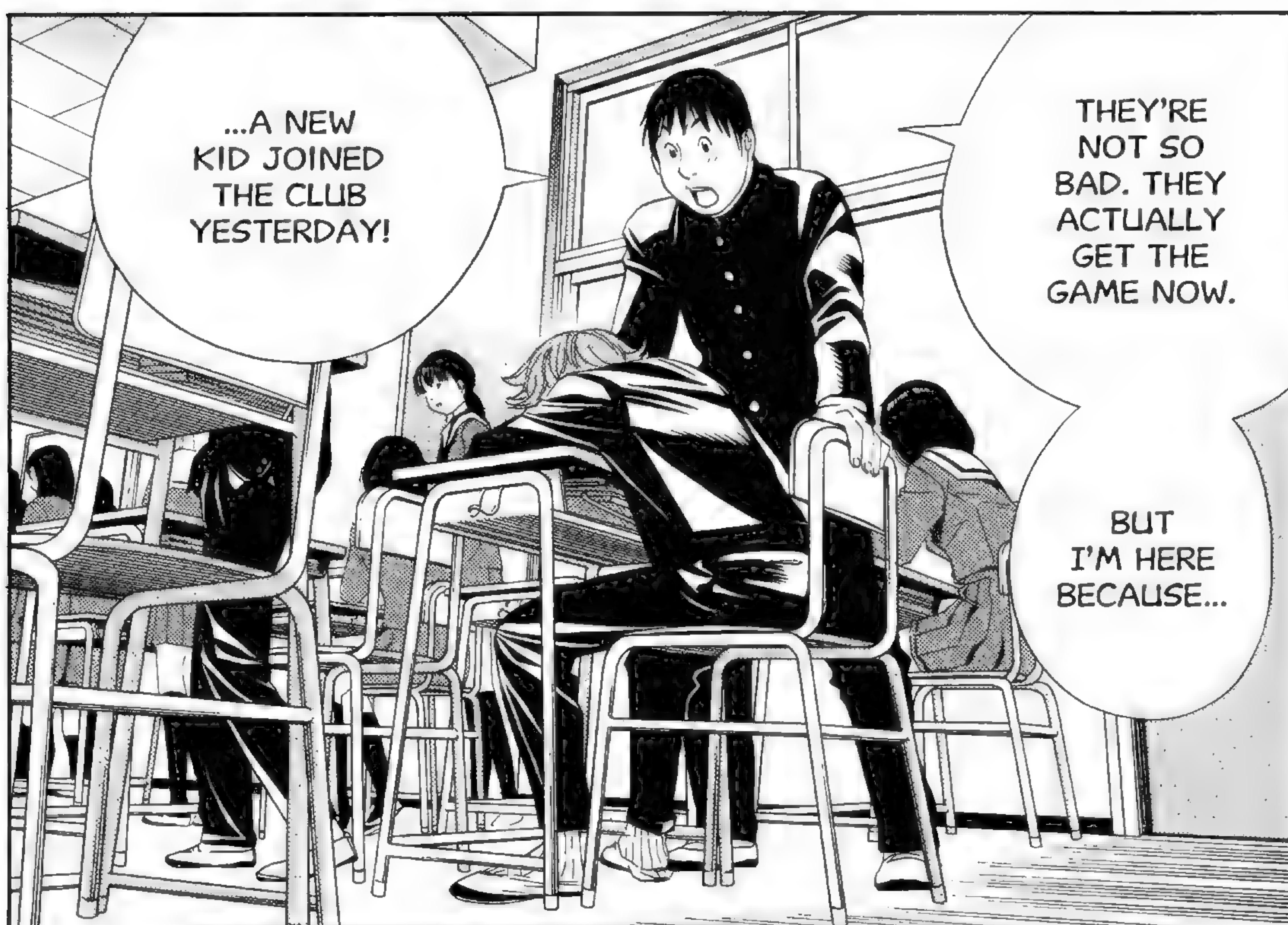
CAN I?

I WANT
TO JOIN
THE GO
CLUB...



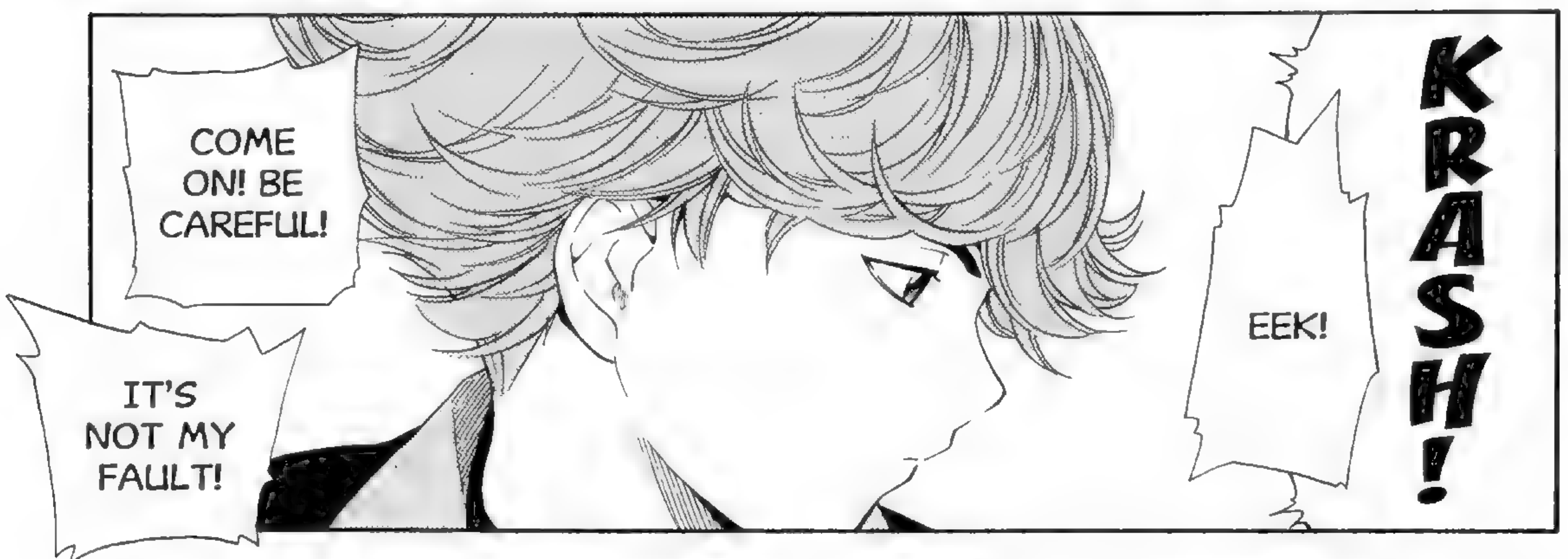
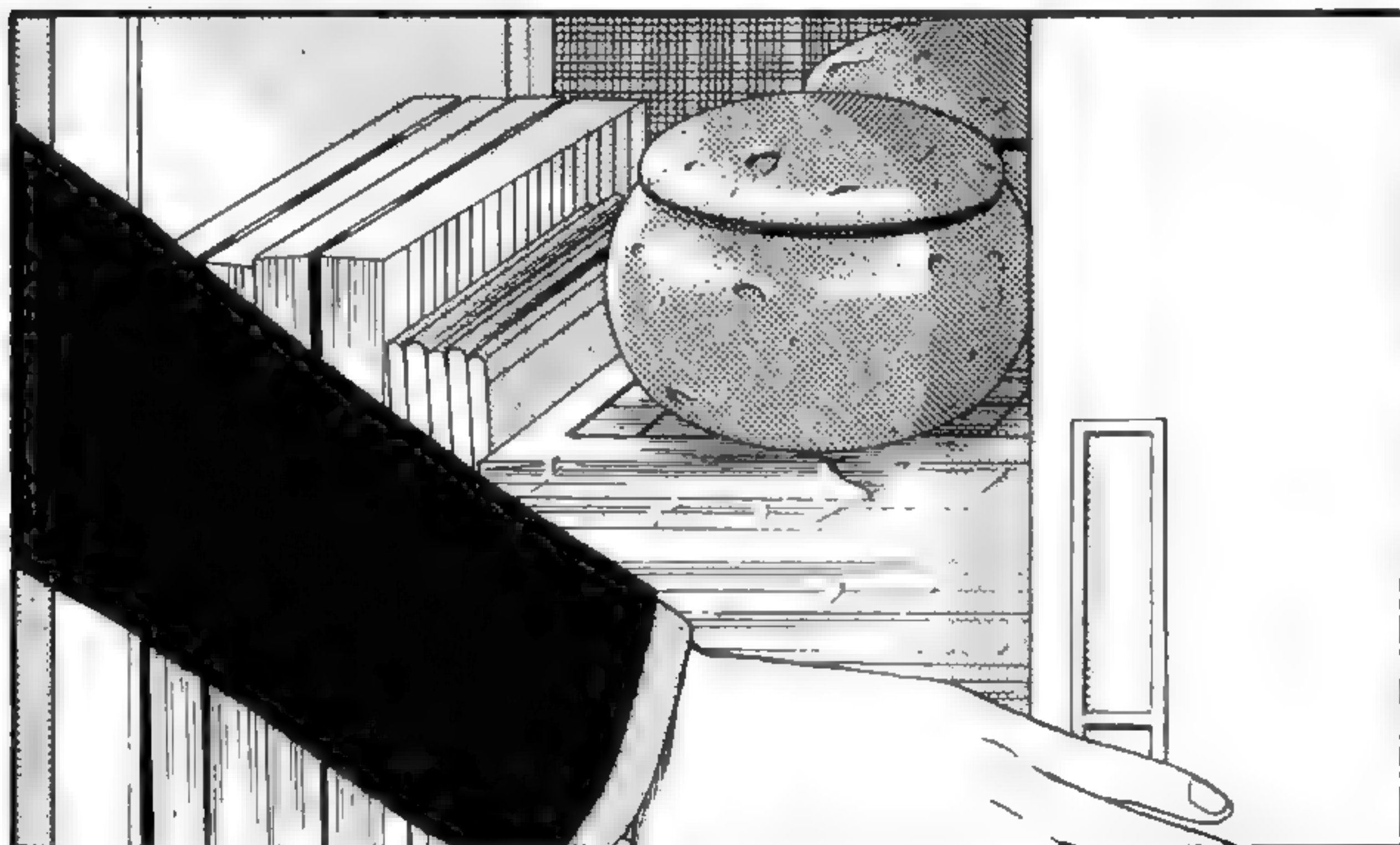
UMM...





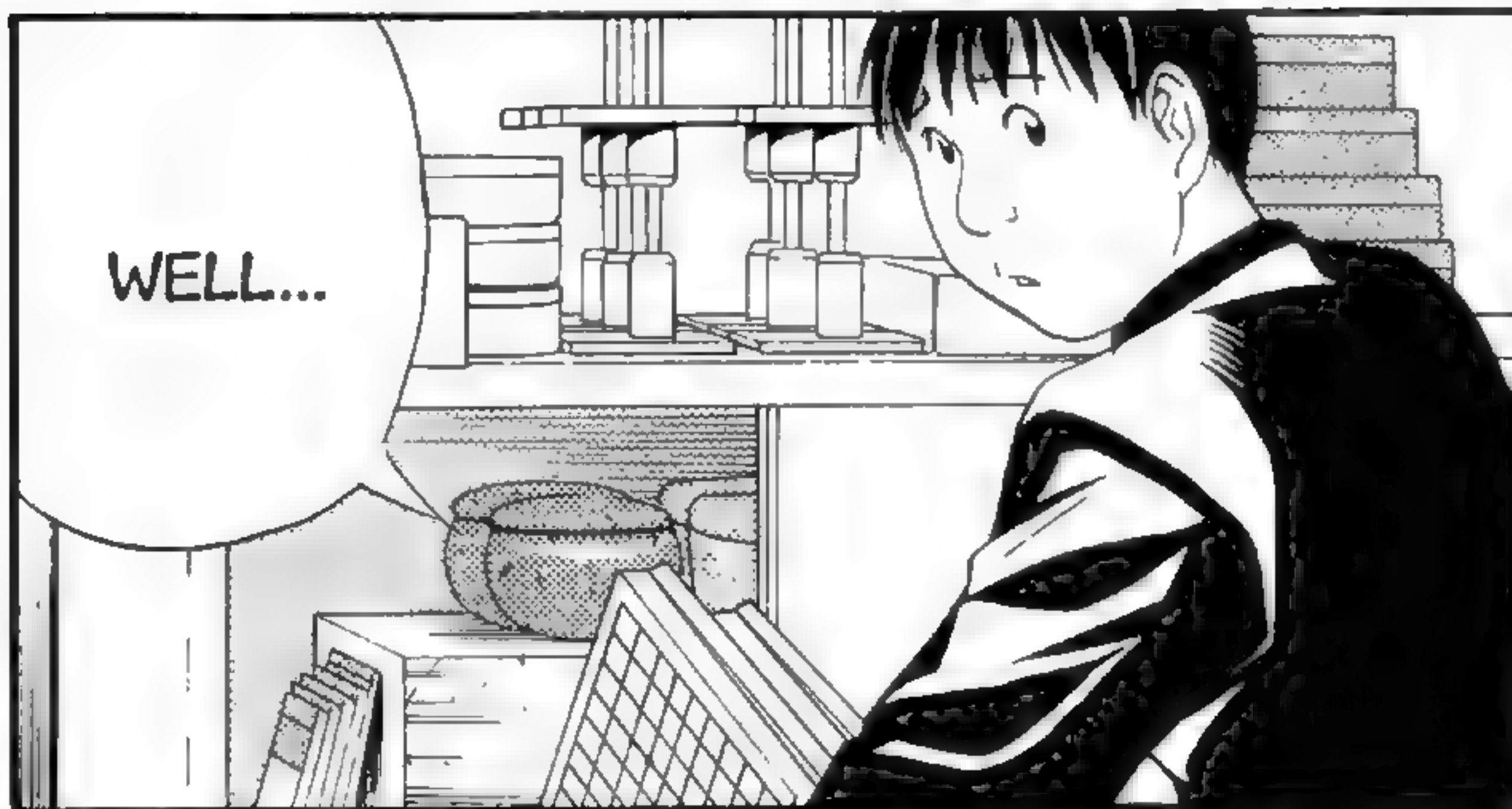
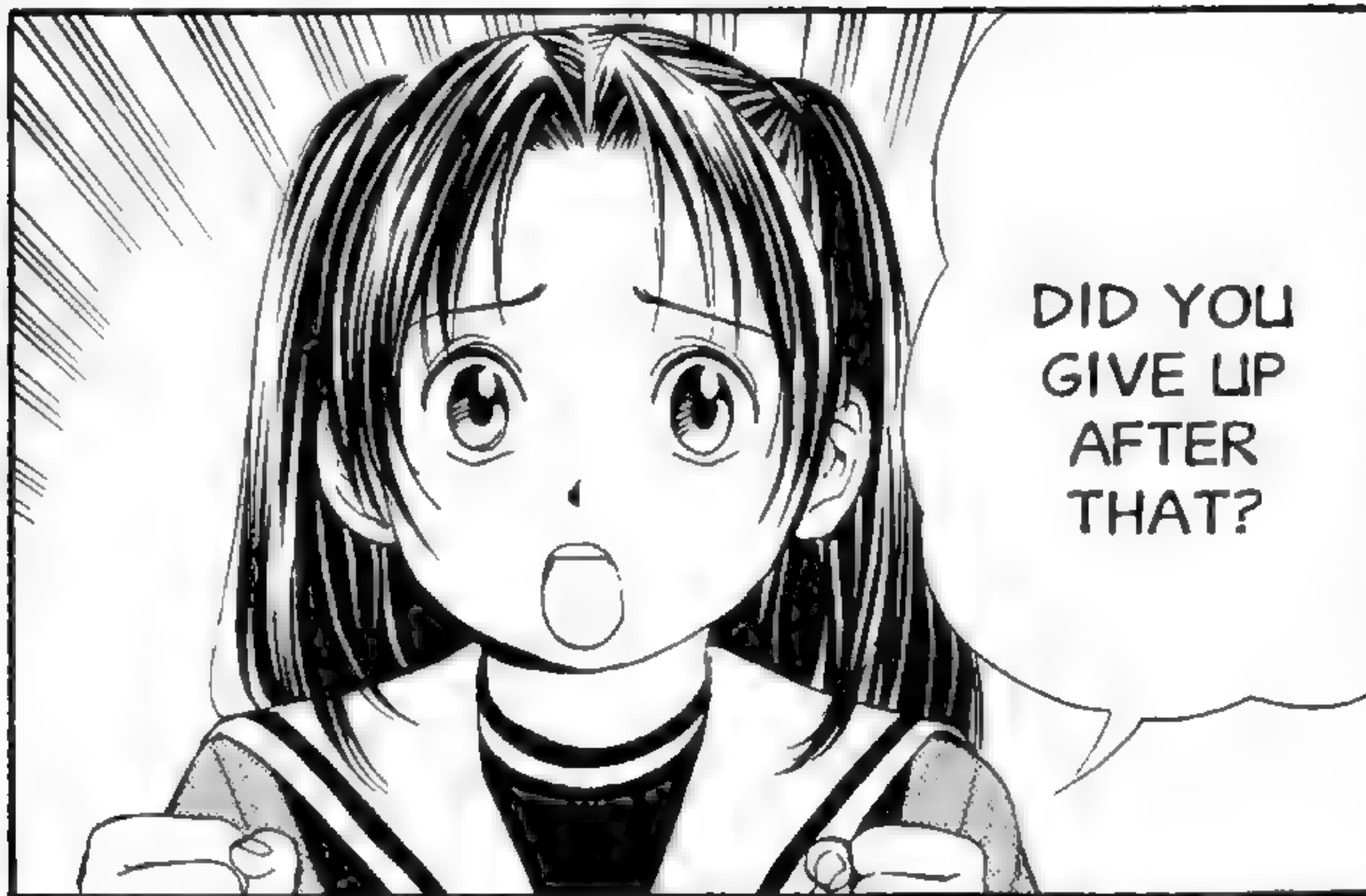


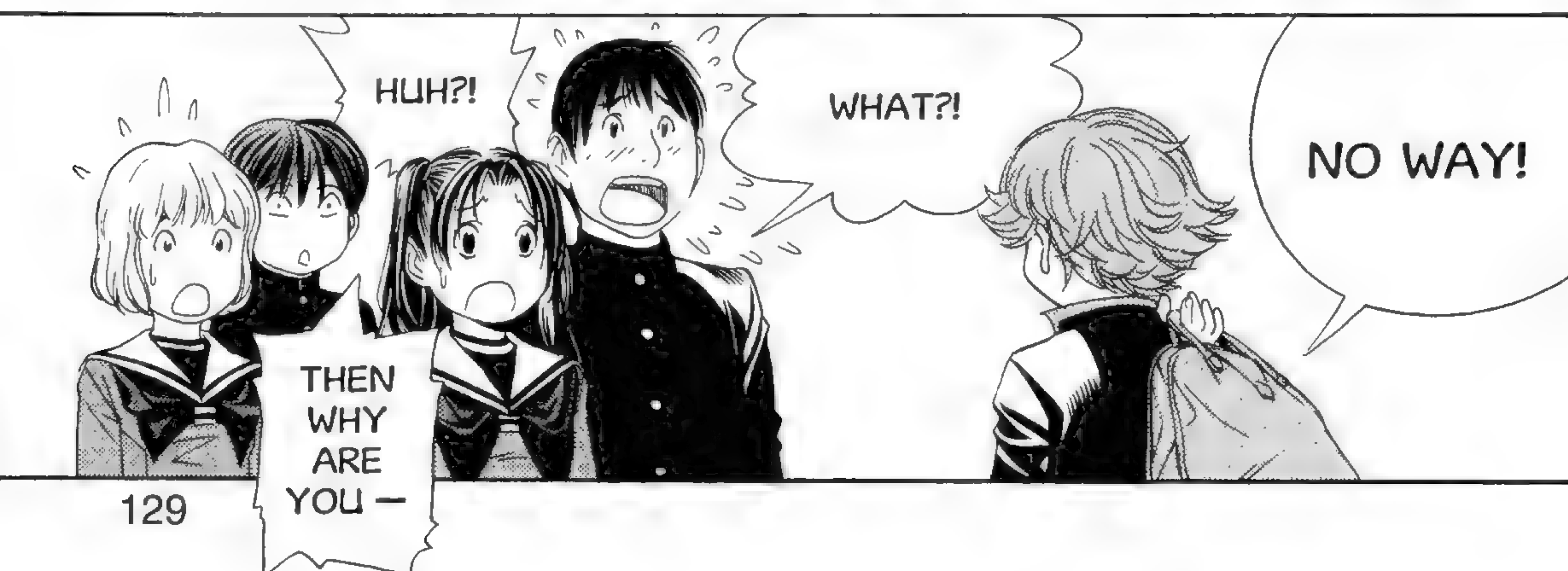
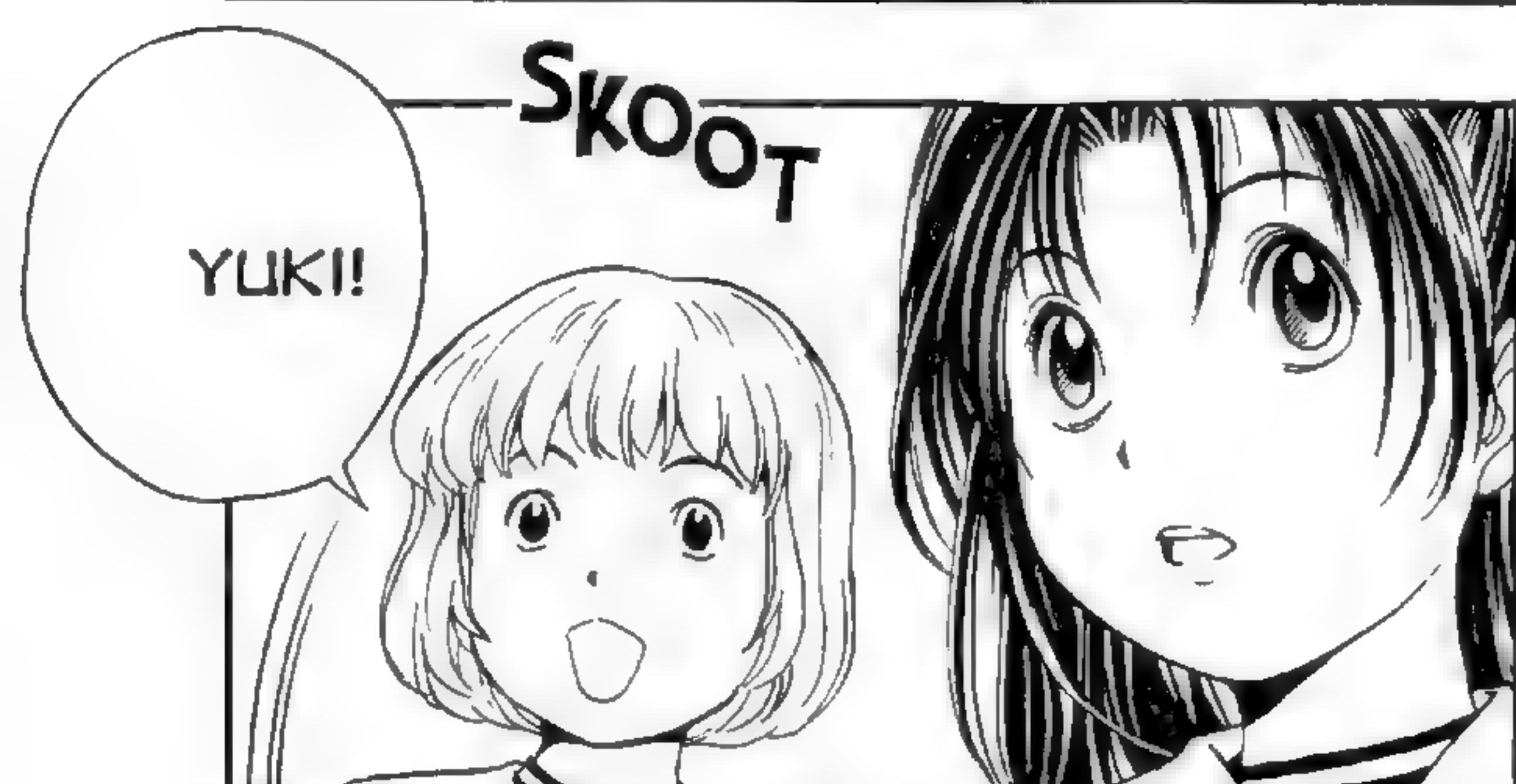
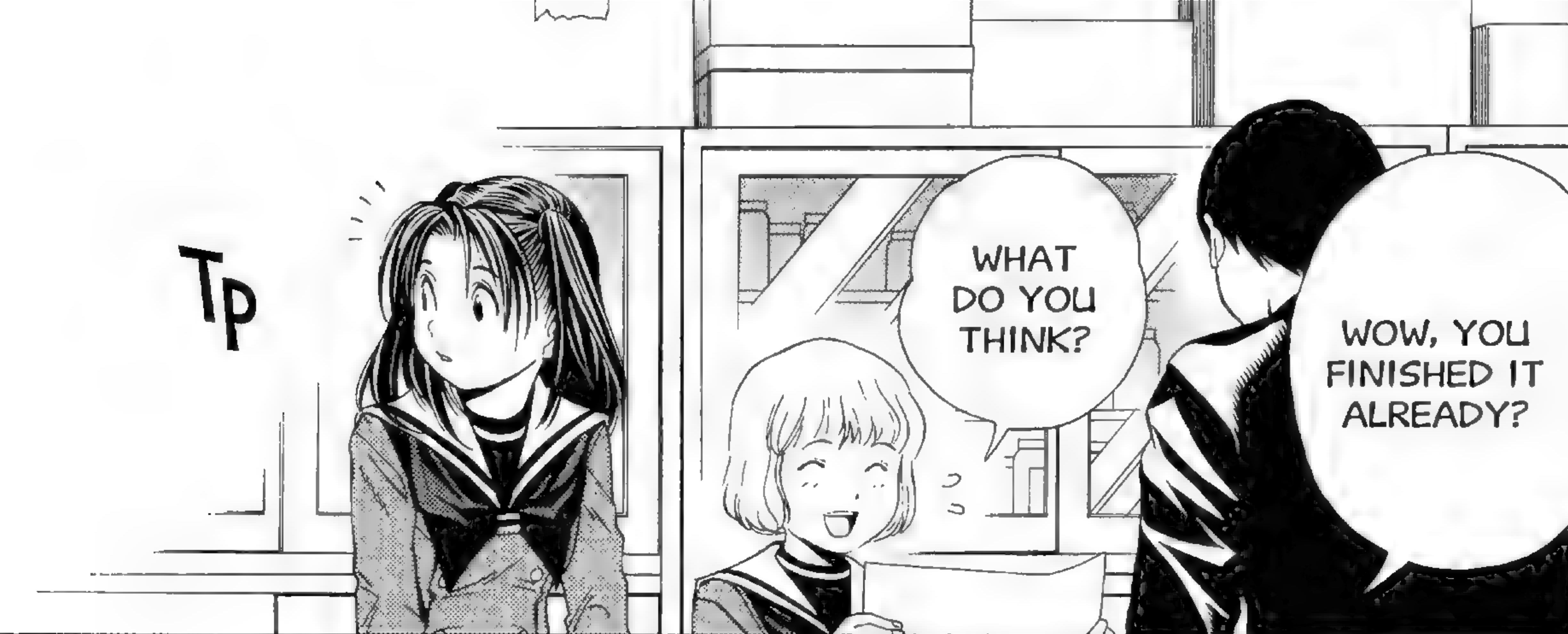


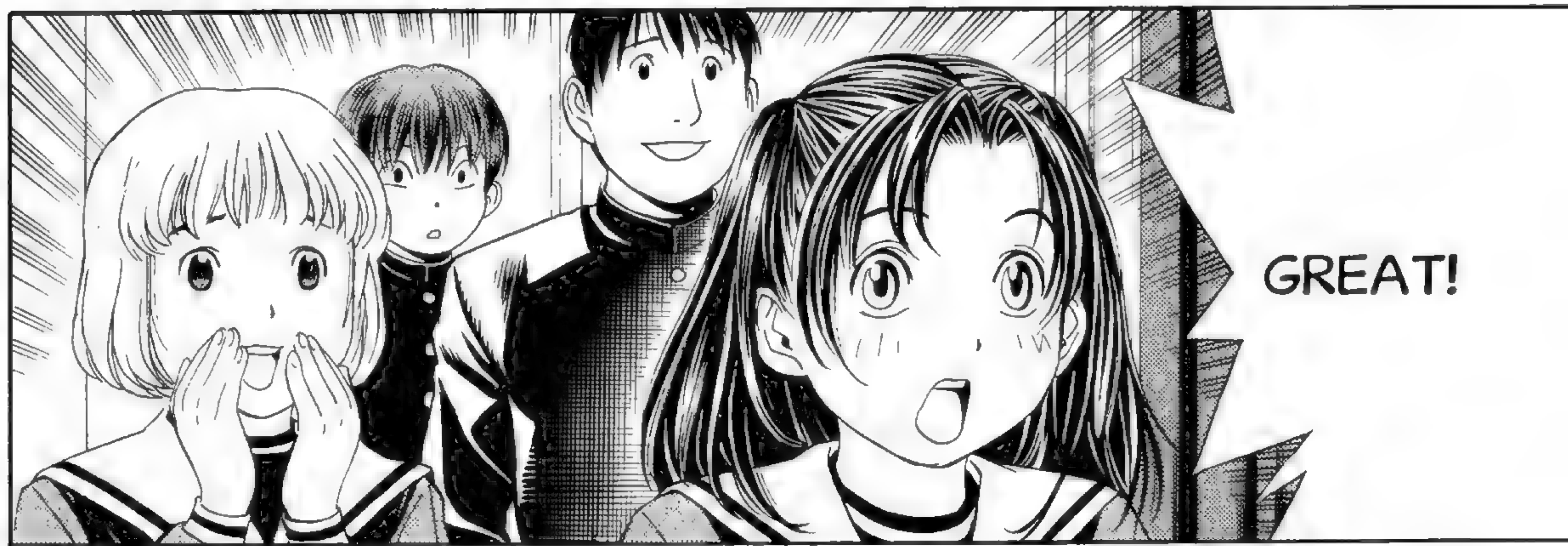






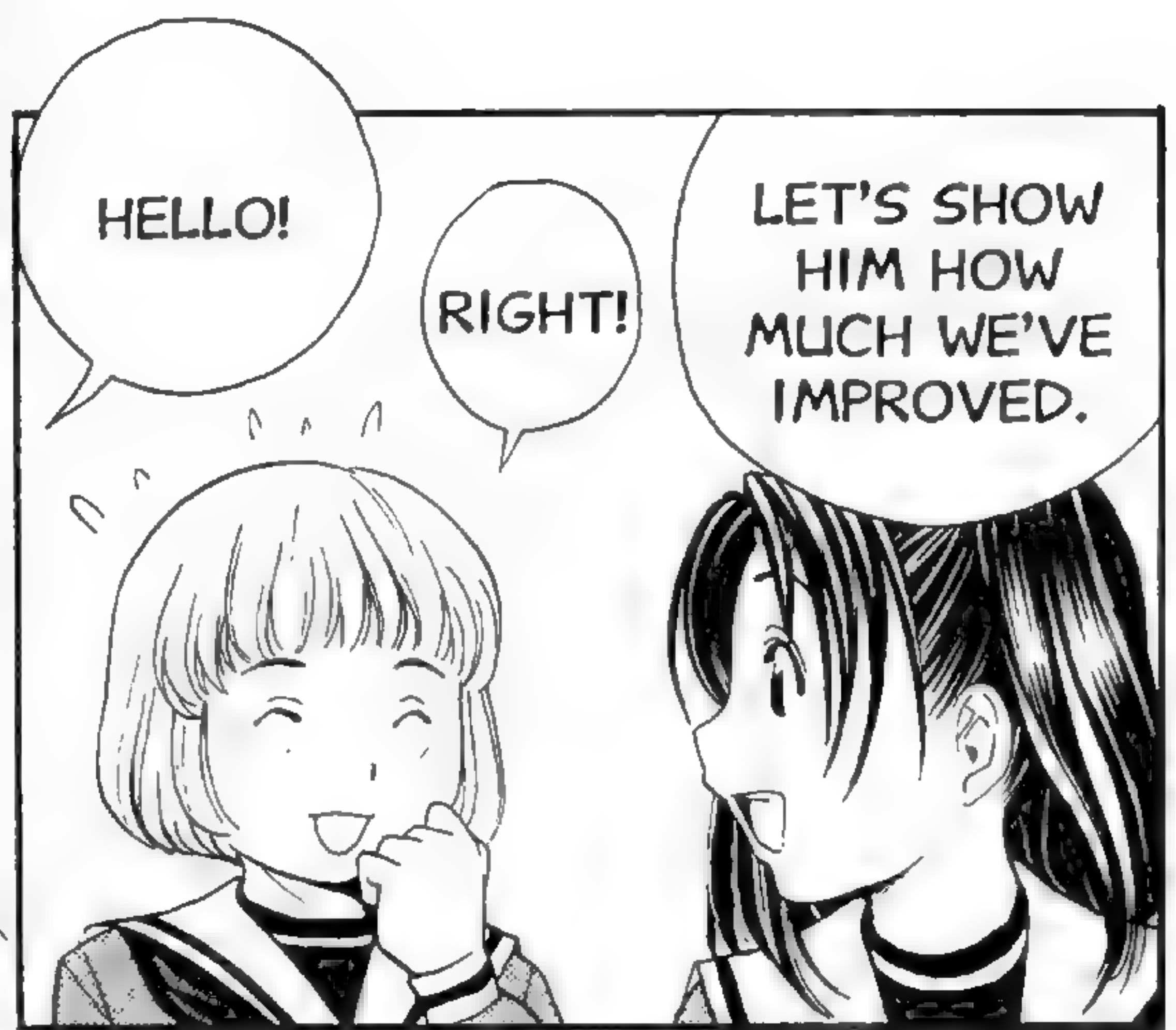








KANEKO!



HELLO!

RIGHT!

LET'S SHOW
HIM HOW
MUCH WE'VE
IMPROVED.



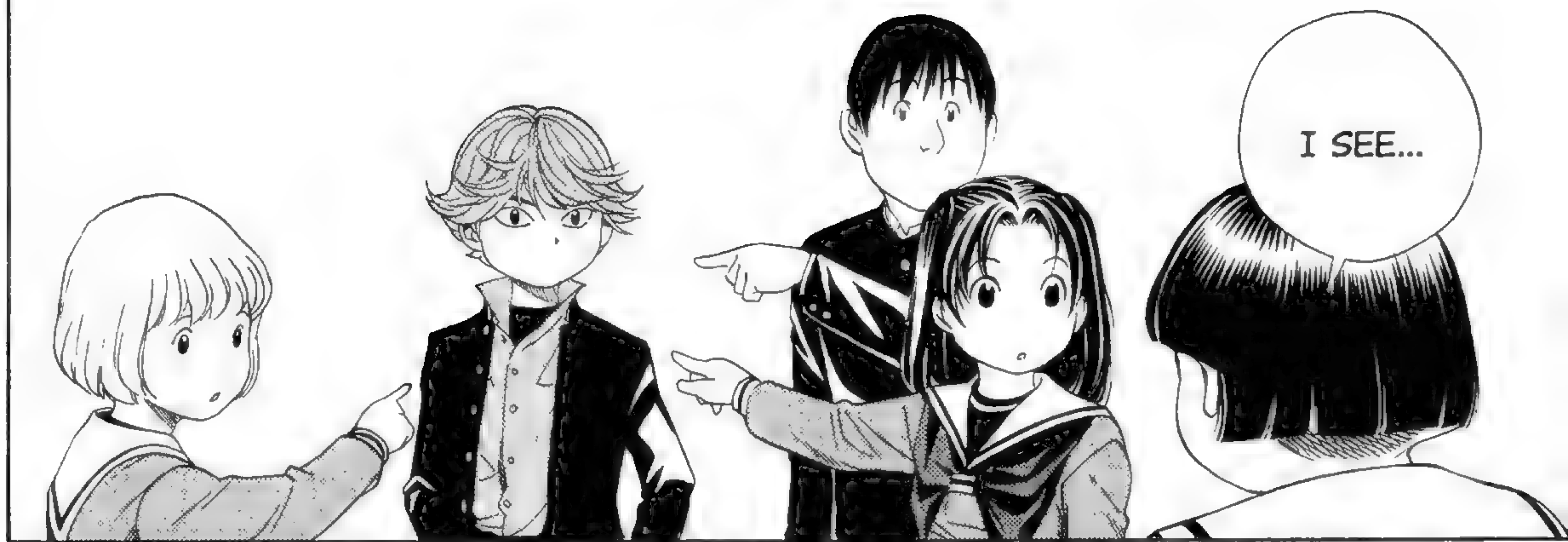
I FELT
KIND OF
BAD FOR
NOT BEING
IN THE LAST
TOURNA-
MENT...

I CAME
TO BRUSH
UP ON MY
GAME.



WHO'S THE
STRONGEST
PLAYER
HERE?

...SO I DECIDED TO
GET READY FOR
THE NEXT ONE.



I SEE...



C'MON,
LET'S
CHOOSE
FOR
COLOR.

SO YOU
WANT
TO PLAY
AN EVEN
GAME?

YOU'RE
NOT SHY,
ARE YOU?



HOW
ABOUT
OVER
HERE?

LET'S
PLAY.



WELL, YUKI,
IF YOU'RE SO
CONFIDENT,
LET'S START
PLAYING.

.....

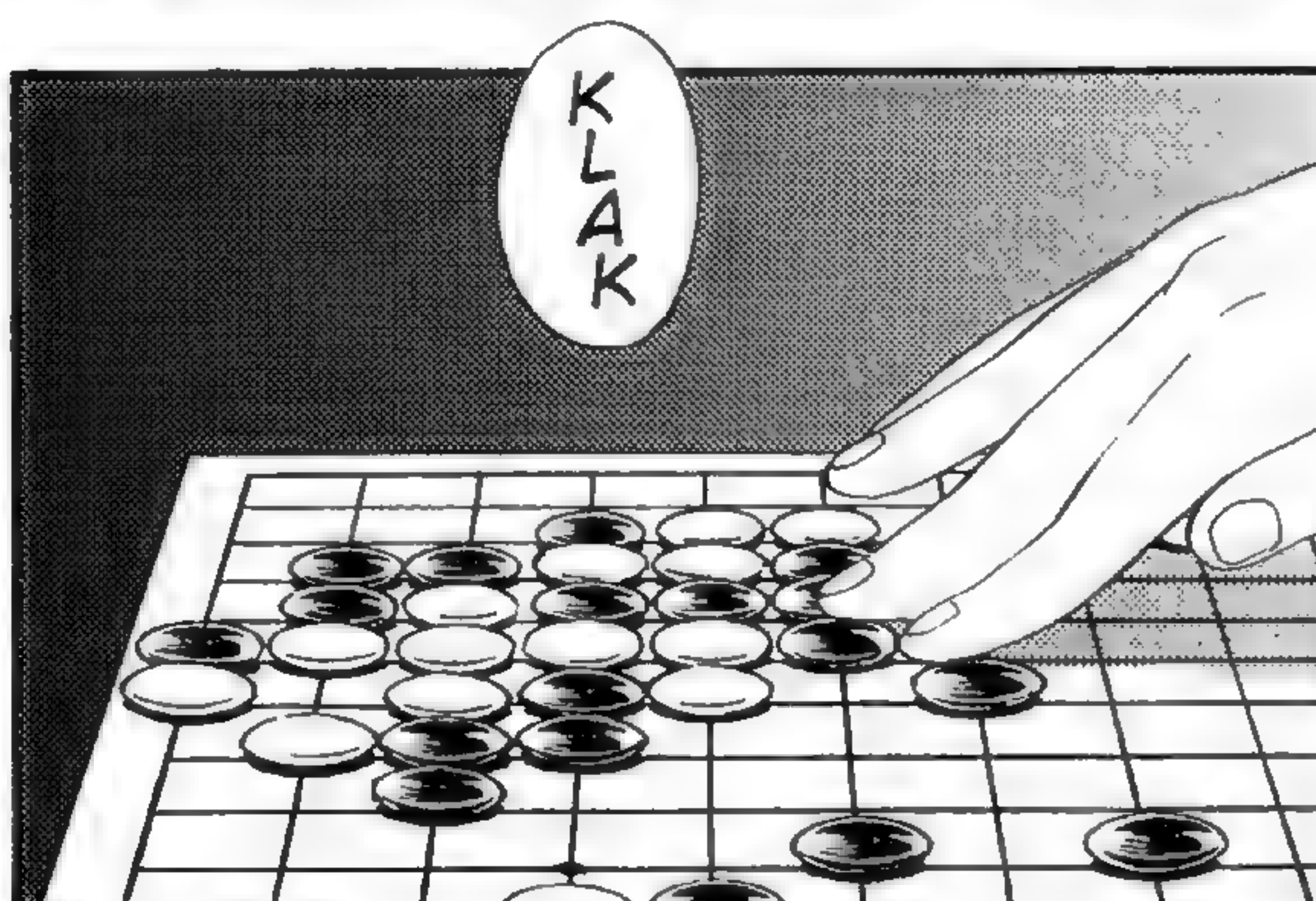
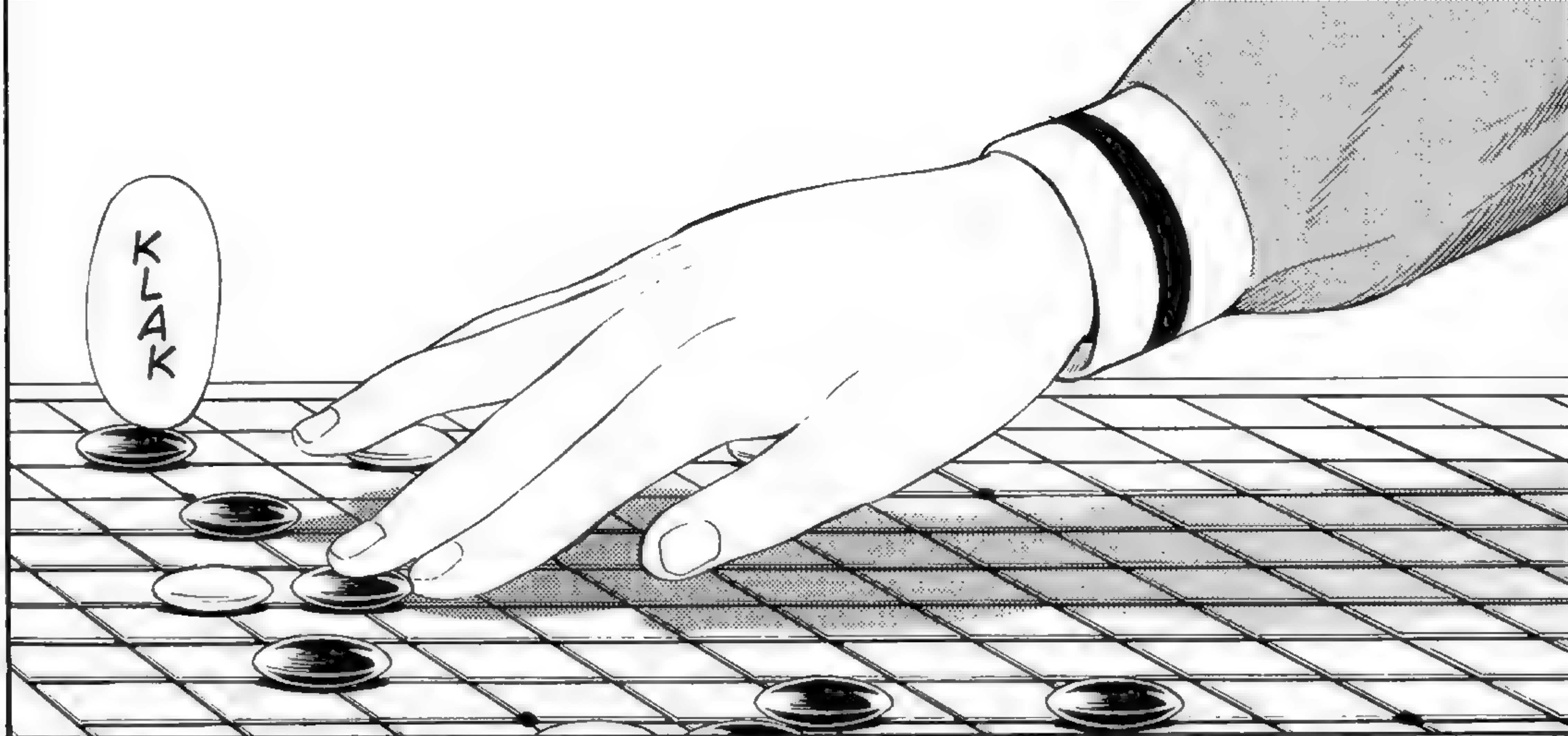
I HOPE
YUKI
DOESN'T
GET UP AND
LEAVE...

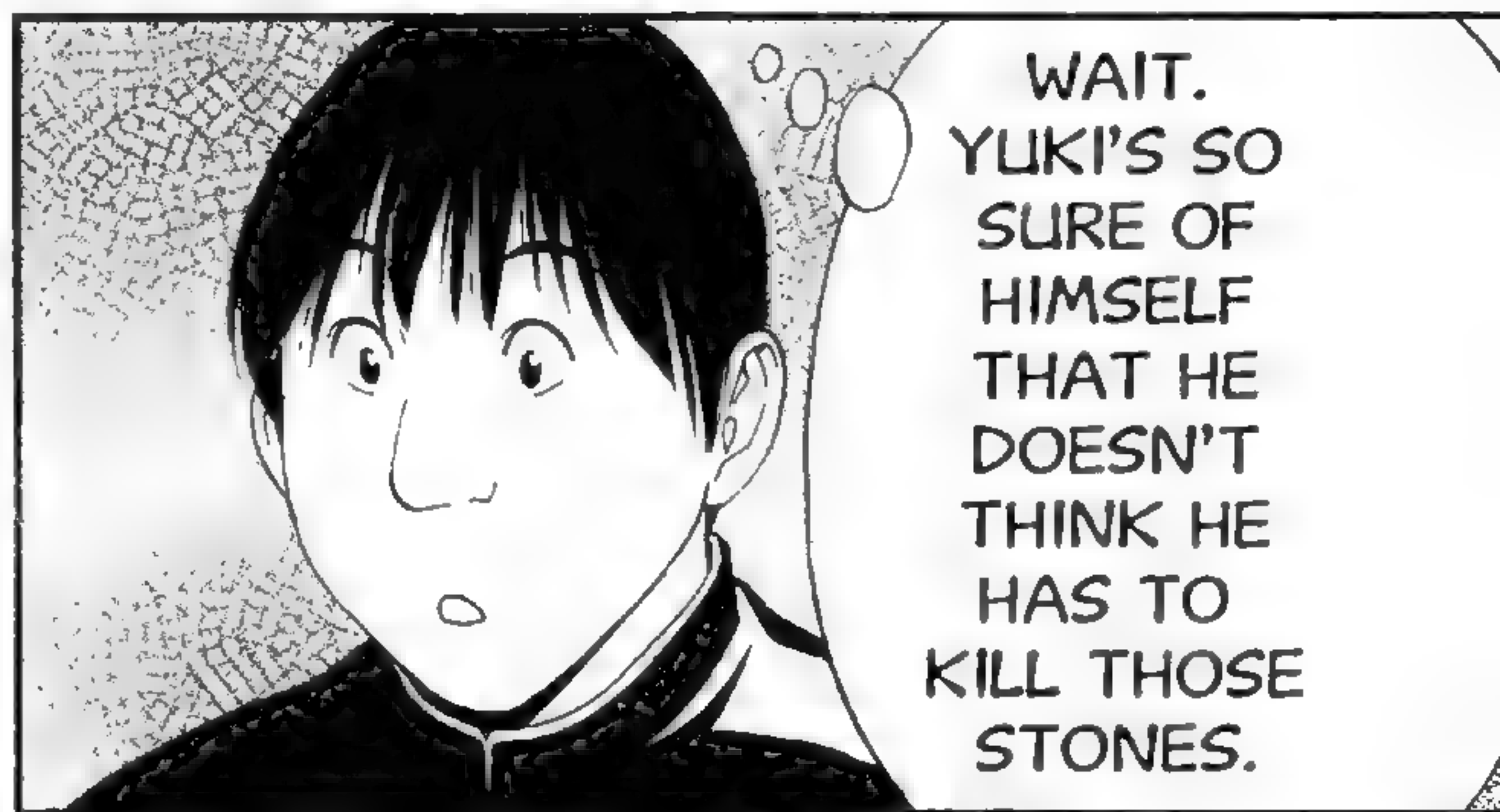


WHAT?!
ME, PUT
DOWN
STONES?

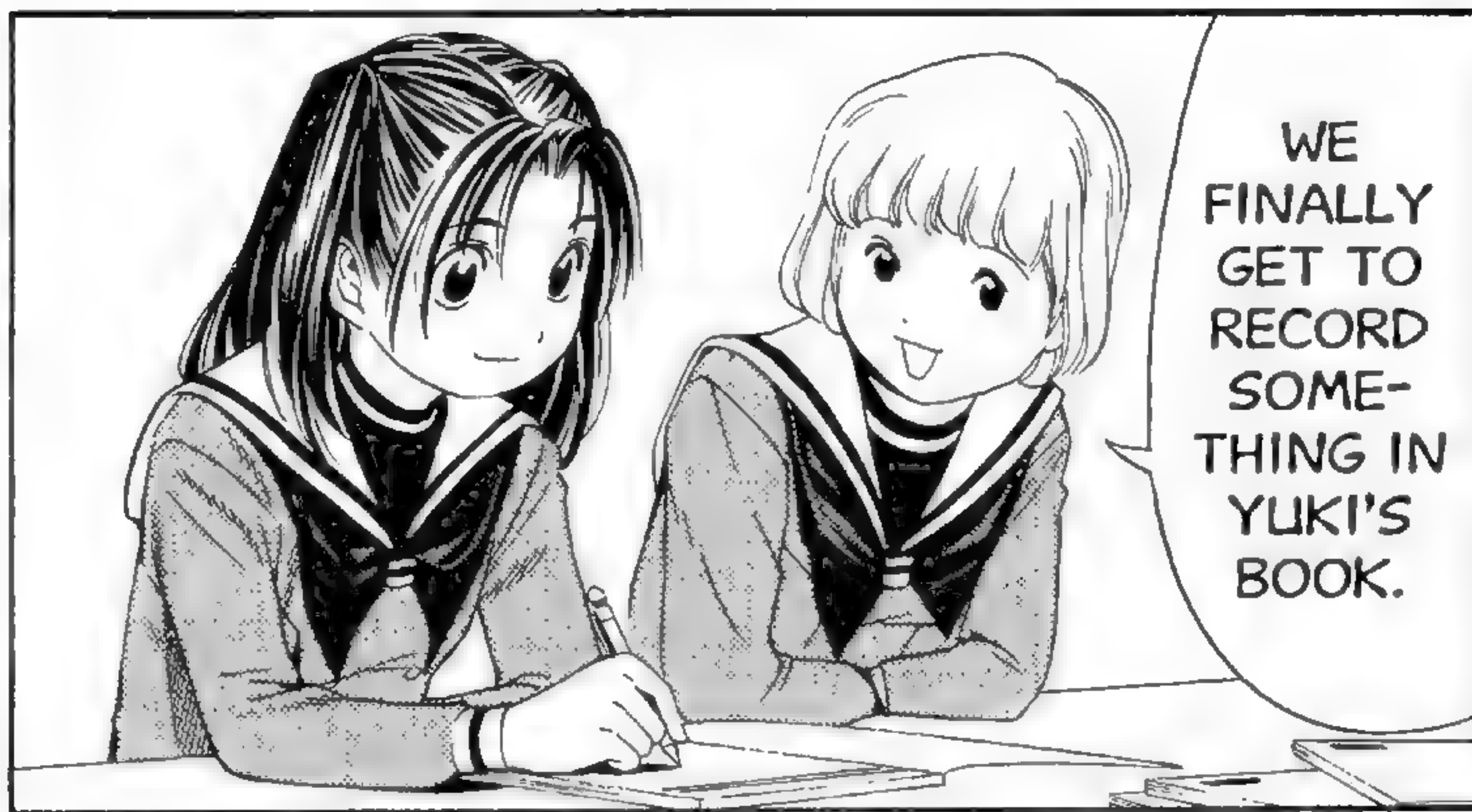


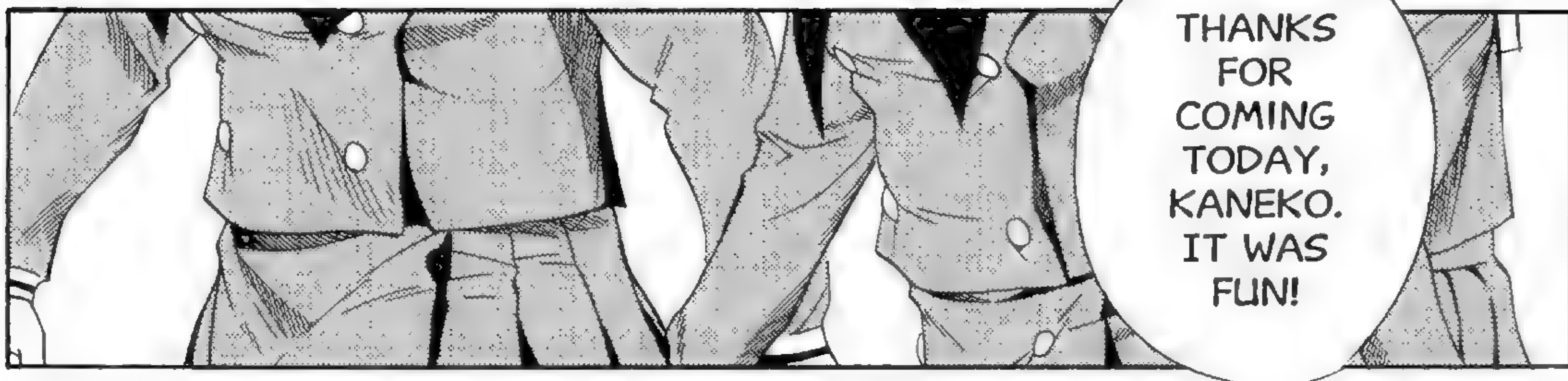
SURE. WE'RE PLAYING
TOGETHER FOR THE FIRST
TIME SO WE NEED TO KNOW
EACH OTHER'S STRENGTH.
BUT IF YOU WANT TO PUT
SOME STONES DOWN,
BE MY GUEST.

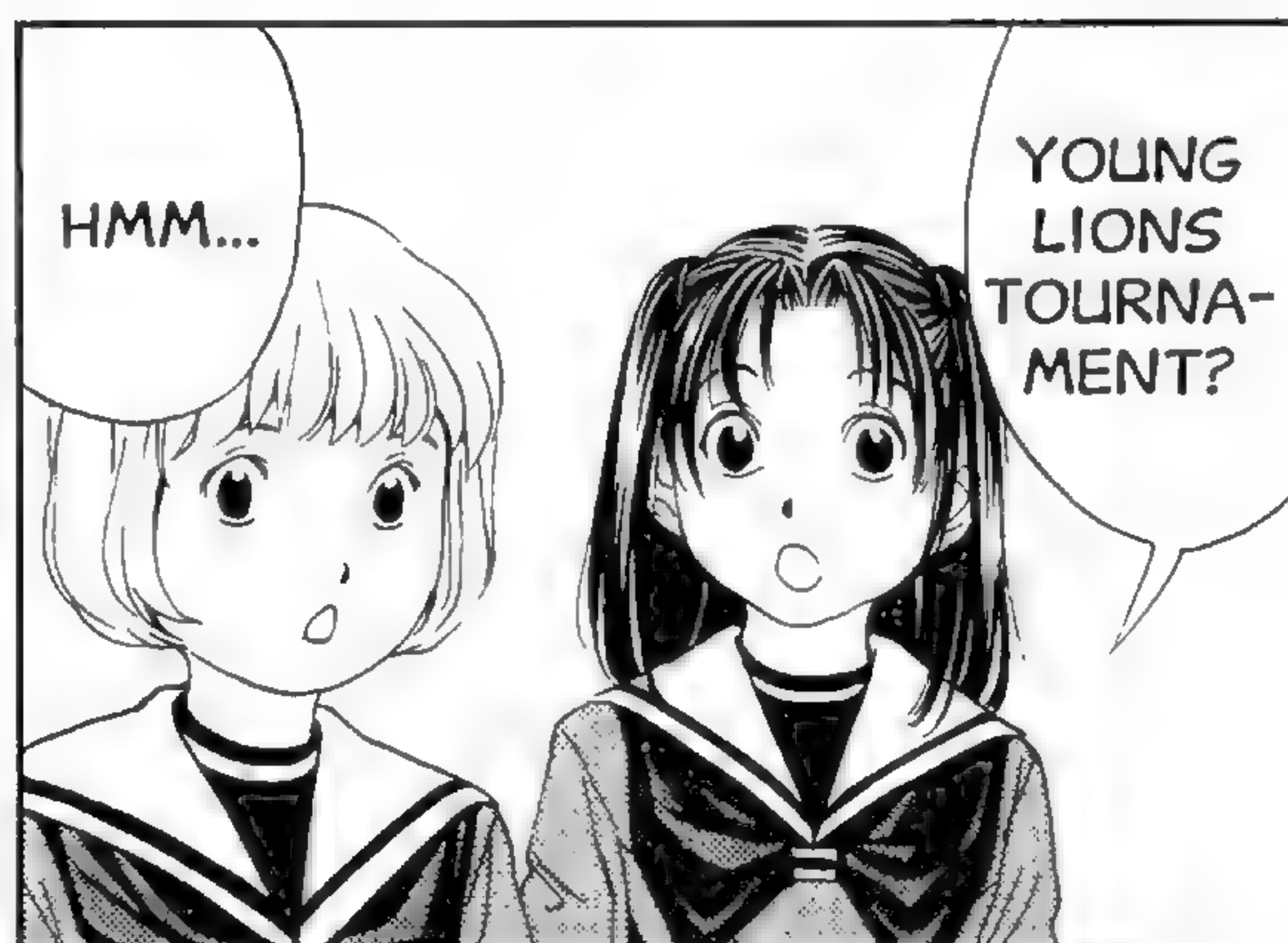


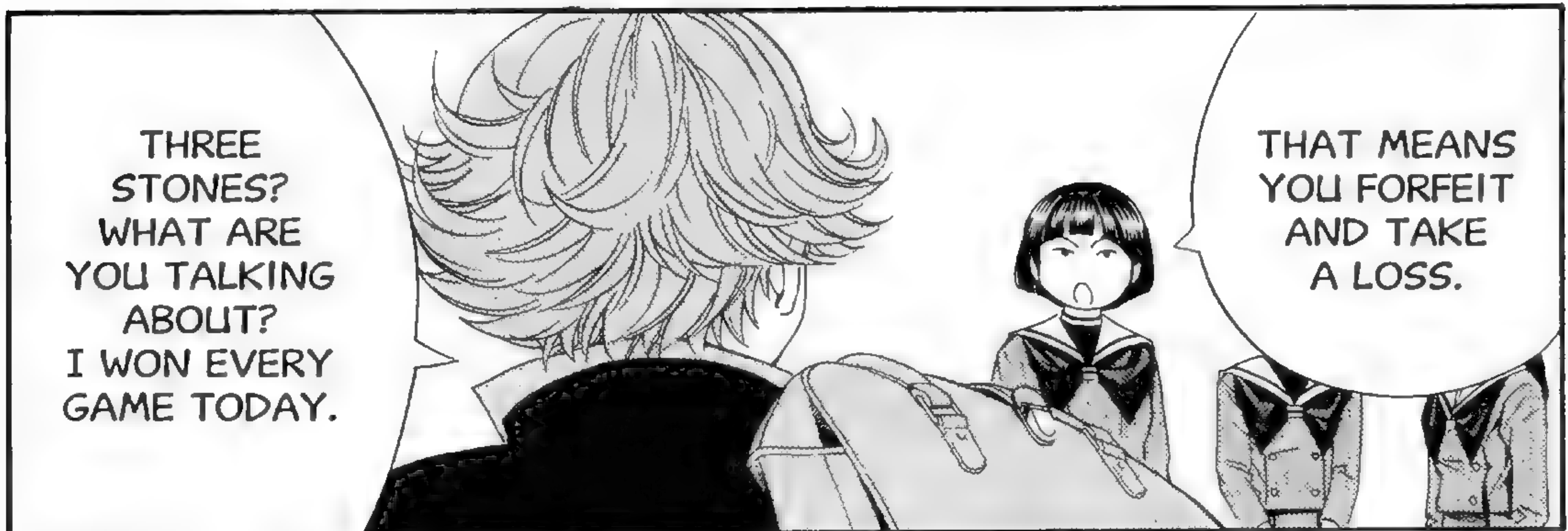












A WORD ABOUT HIKARU NO GO

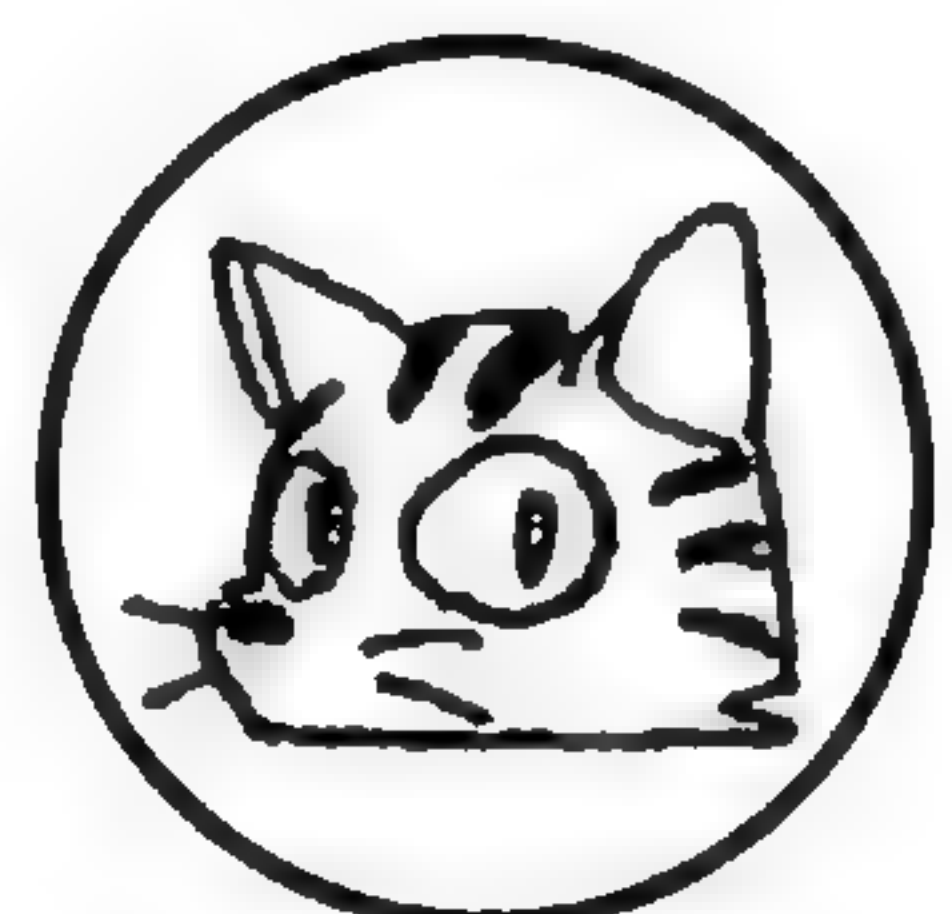
FEES FOR TEACHING GAMES



HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO PLAY A GAME WITH A PROFESSIONAL PLAYER?

IT DEPENDS ON THE PRO'S DAN LEVEL, AS WELL AS THE LOCATION. IN JAPAN, FEES CAN RANGE FROM 5,000 YEN TO 15,000 YEN.* IF YOU BECOME A MEMBER OF A GO CLUB, YOU'LL PROBABLY PAY A LITTLE LESS. AND IF YOU PAY A SPECIAL FEE, YOU CAN HAVE A PRO COME TO YOUR HOUSE TO TEACH YOU. HIKARU GETS TO PLAY AGAINST SAI EVERY DAY — NOT A BAD DEAL!

*ABOUT US \$44-132





Game 58

"The Young Lions Tournament"

9TH ANNUAL YOUNG LIONS TOURNAMENT

WHERE
ARE THE
OTHER
INSEI?

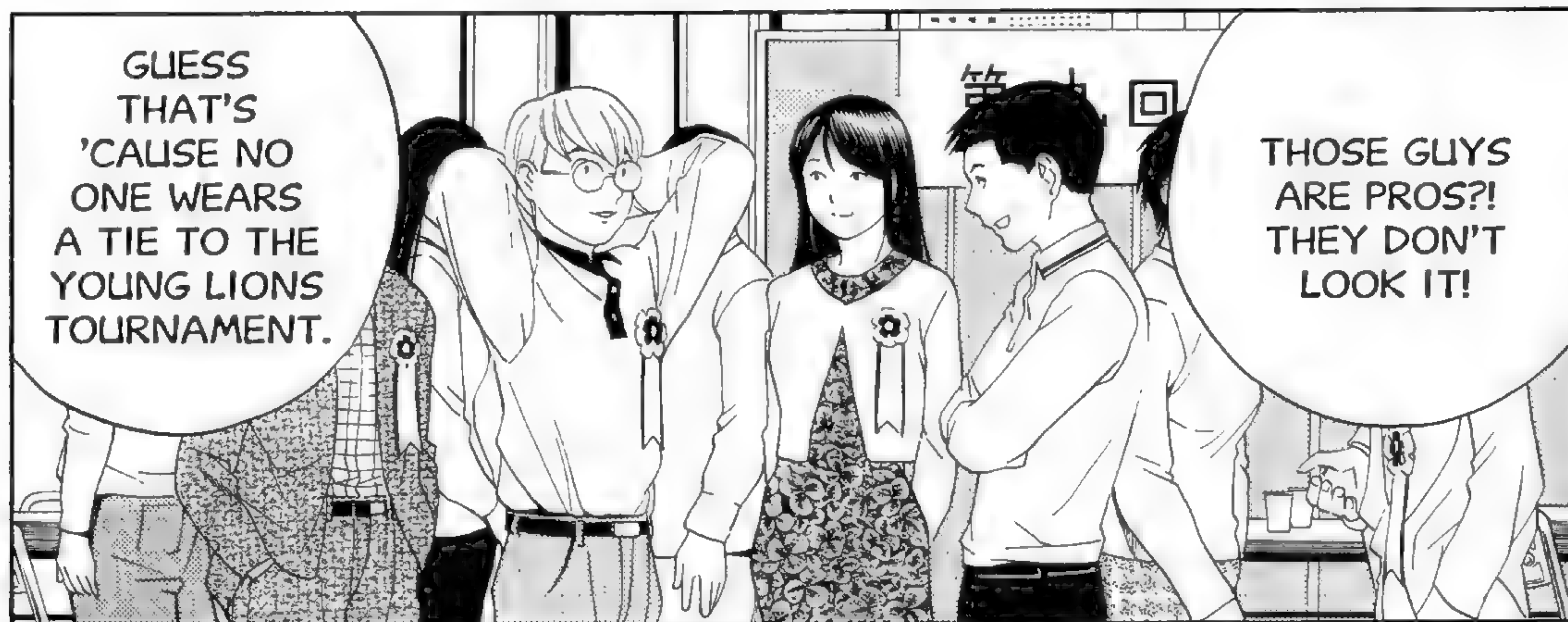
HERE'S
SHINDO!

NOZAKI,
SHINDO, AND
ISOBE AREN'T
HERE YET.

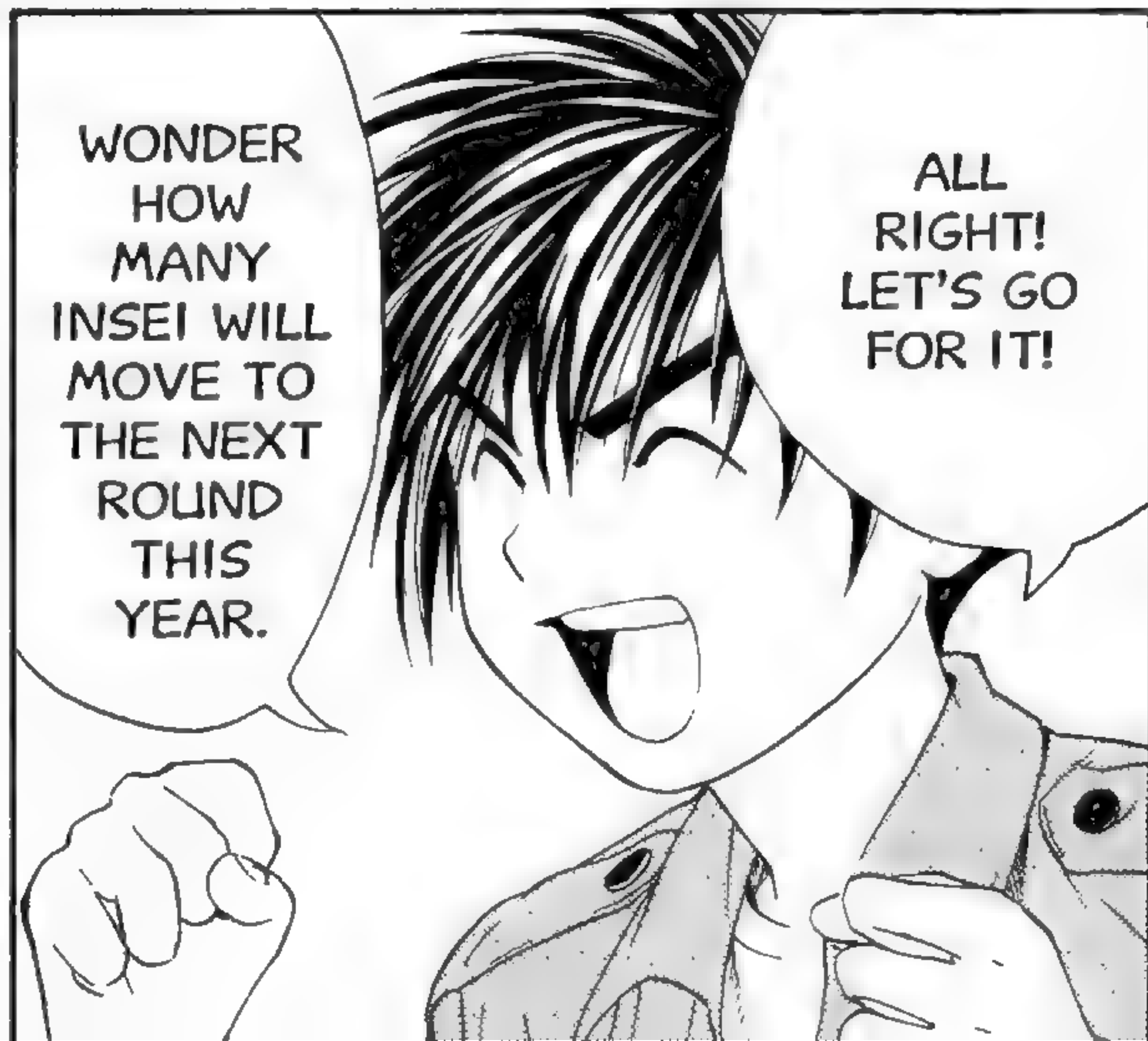
9TH ANNUAL
YOUNG LIONS TOURNAMENT

TODAY'S
THE DAY,
WAYA!

YOU'RE
LATE!













LOOKS LIKE
NOBODY'S
EVEN THINKING
ABOUT US
INSEI.



OVER
THERE,
HE'S THIRD
FROM THE
LEFT, IN
THE PLAID
SHIRT.



I'M
PLAYING
AGAINST
MURAKAMI
2 DAN?
WHERE *IS*
HE?

I BET THAT'S
ESPECIALLY TRUE
FOR MURAKAMI.
HE FACES TOYA IF
HE BEATS SHINDO
IN THE FIRST
ROUND.



AND IT'S
ALL SWEATY!

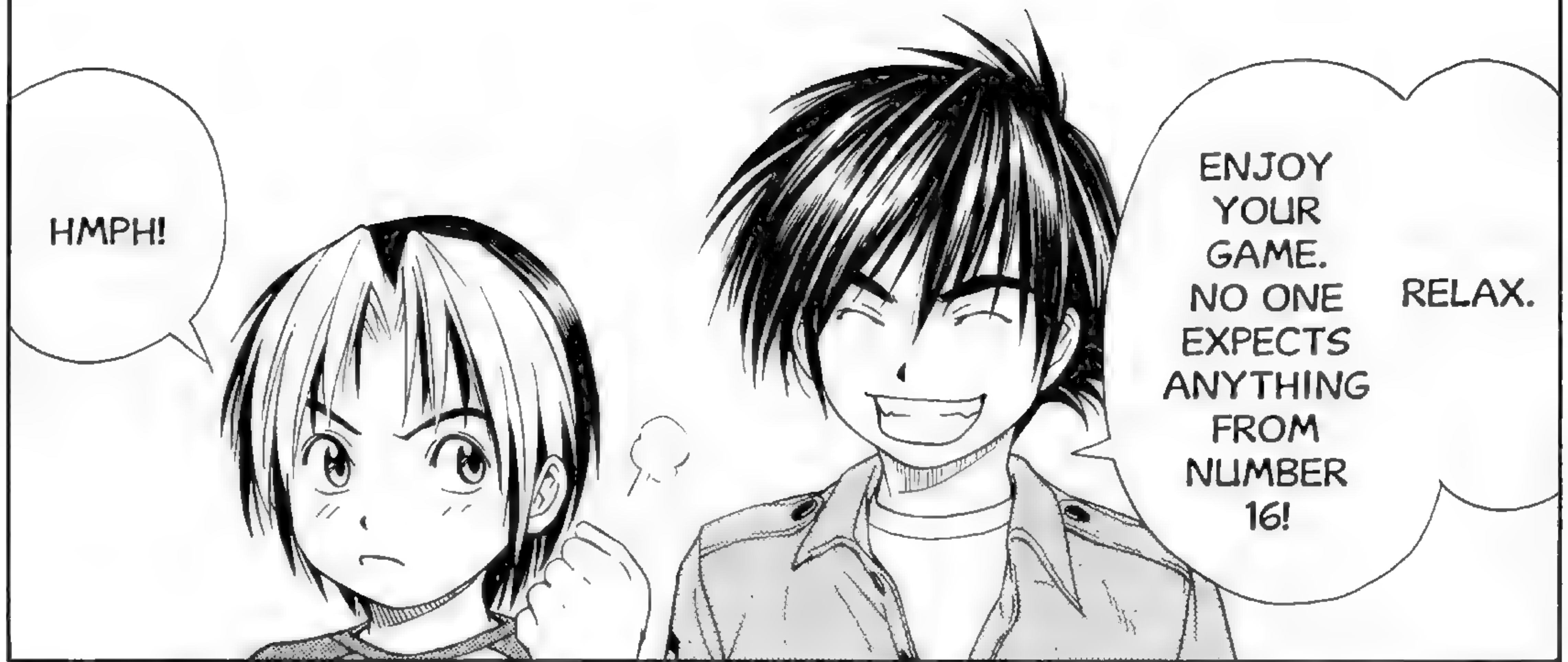


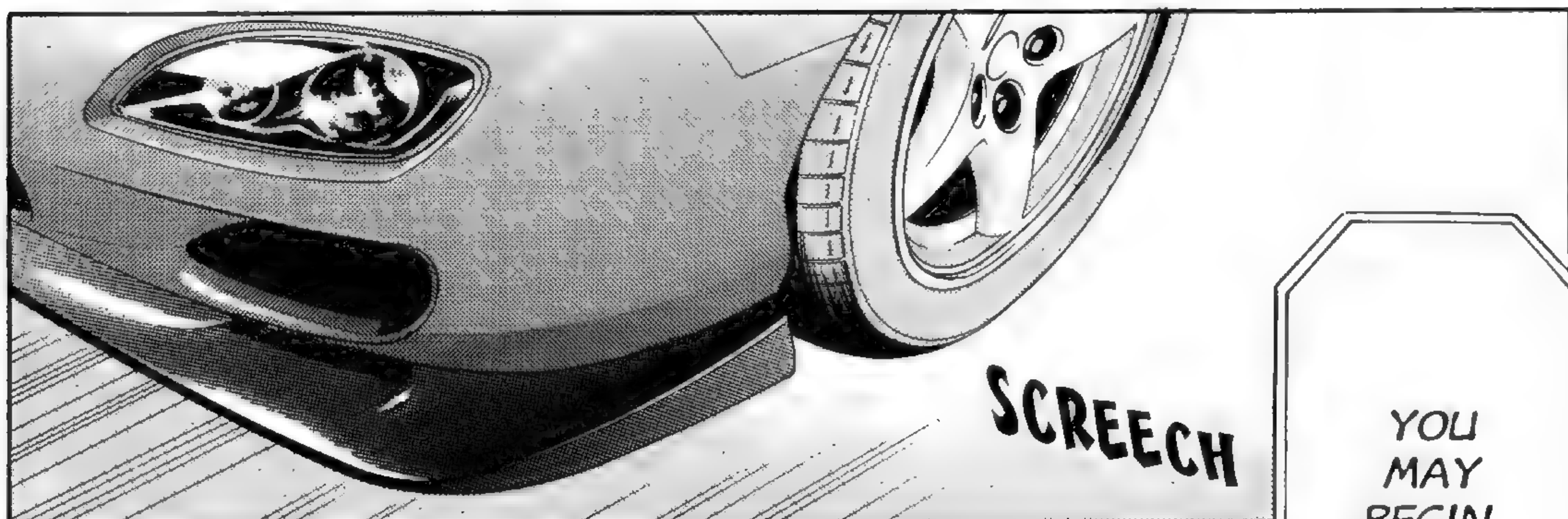
.....

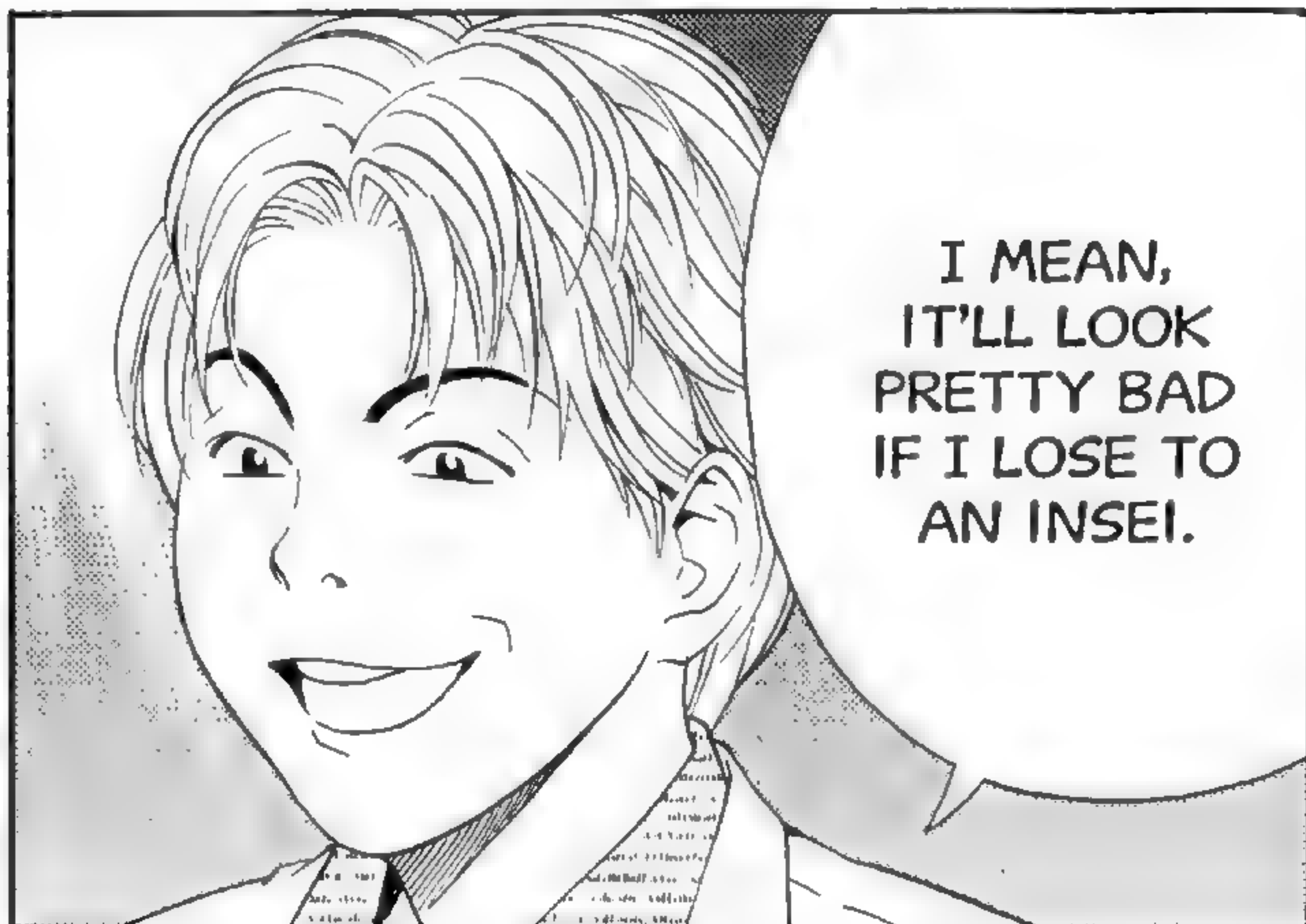
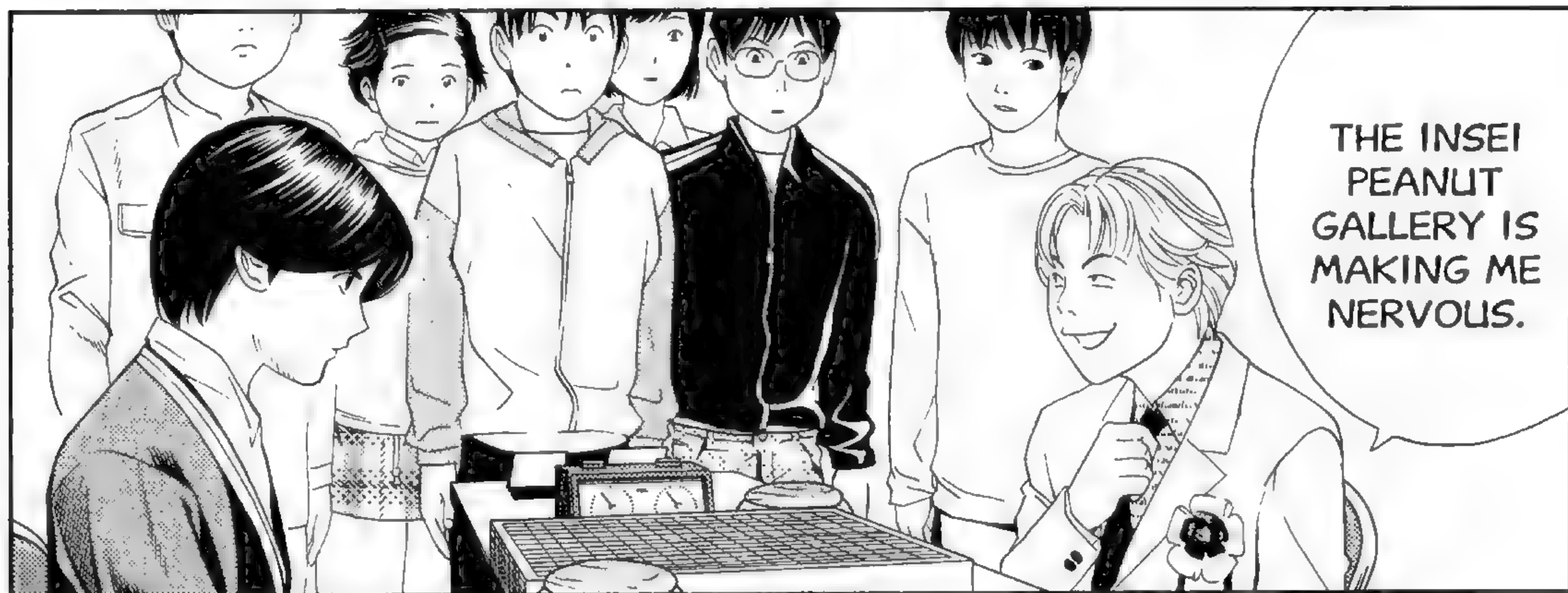
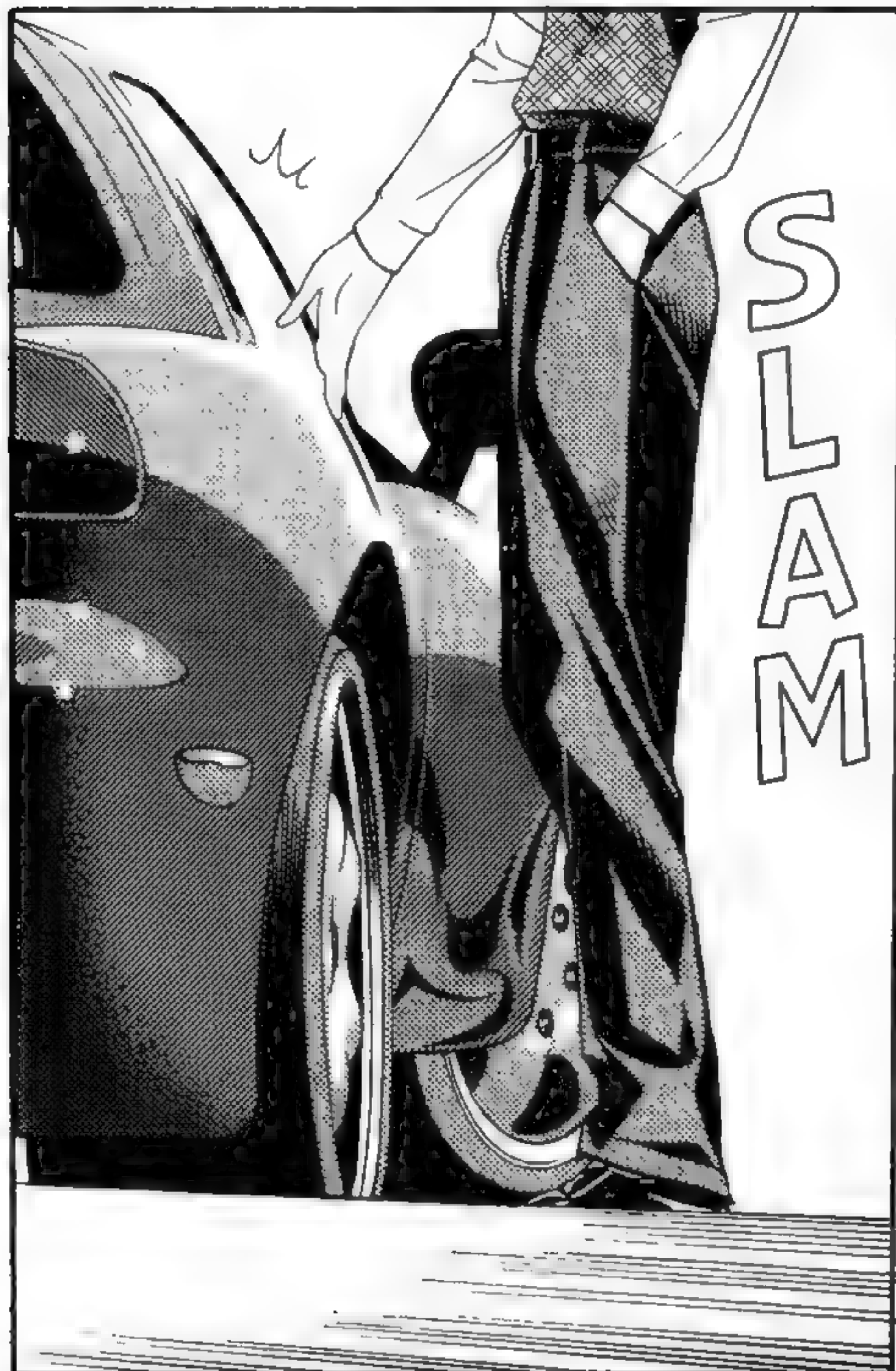


HUH?!

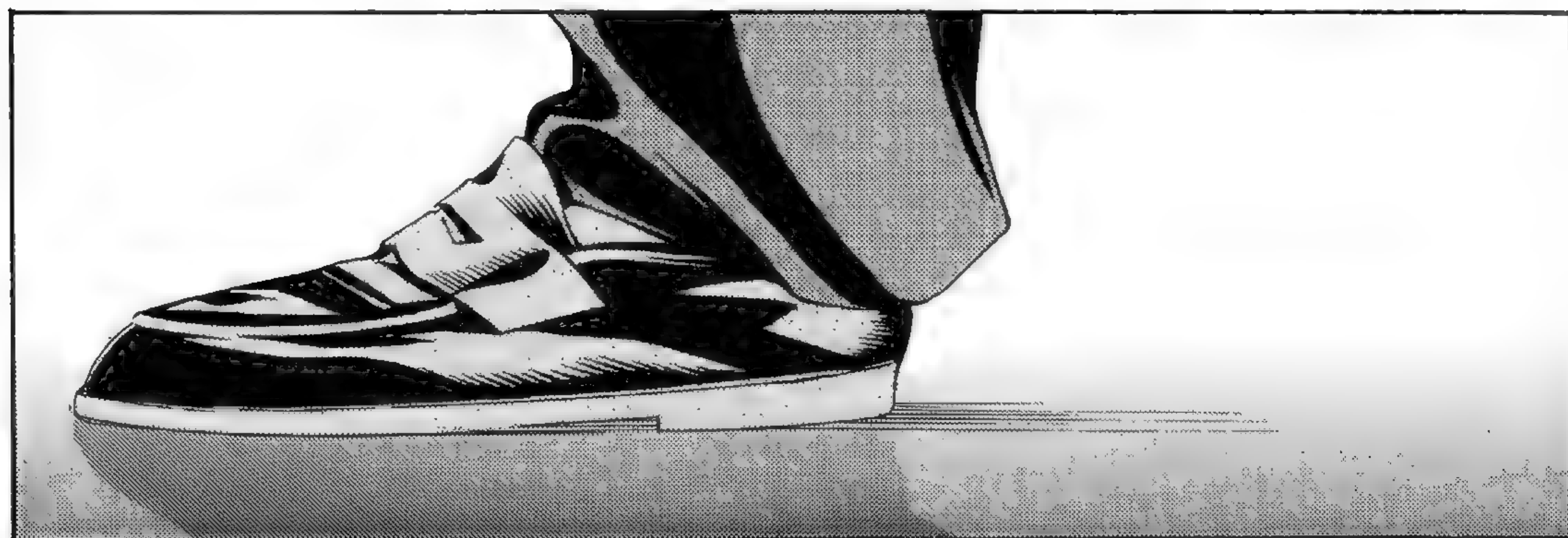
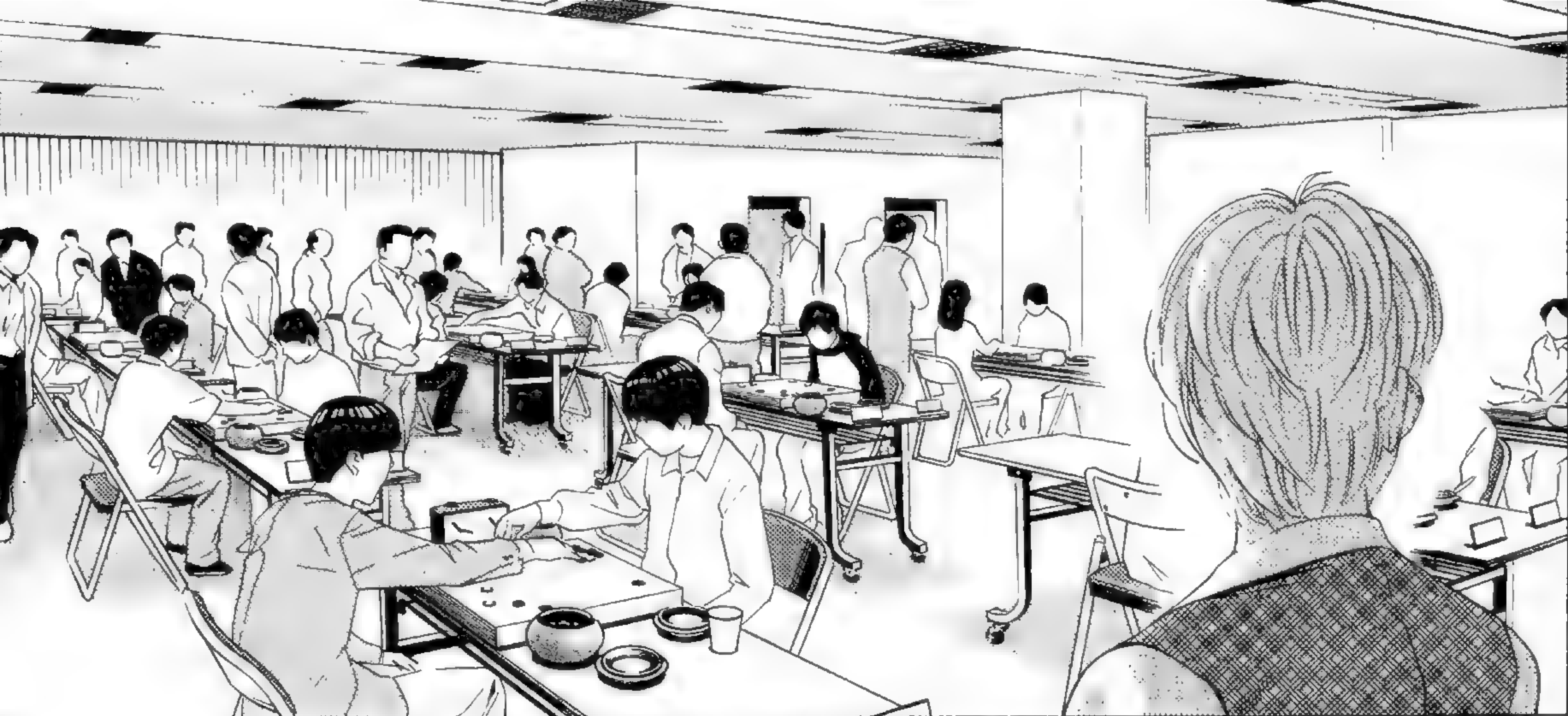
TAKE
IT EASY.
YOU'RE
CLENCHING
YOUR
FIST.

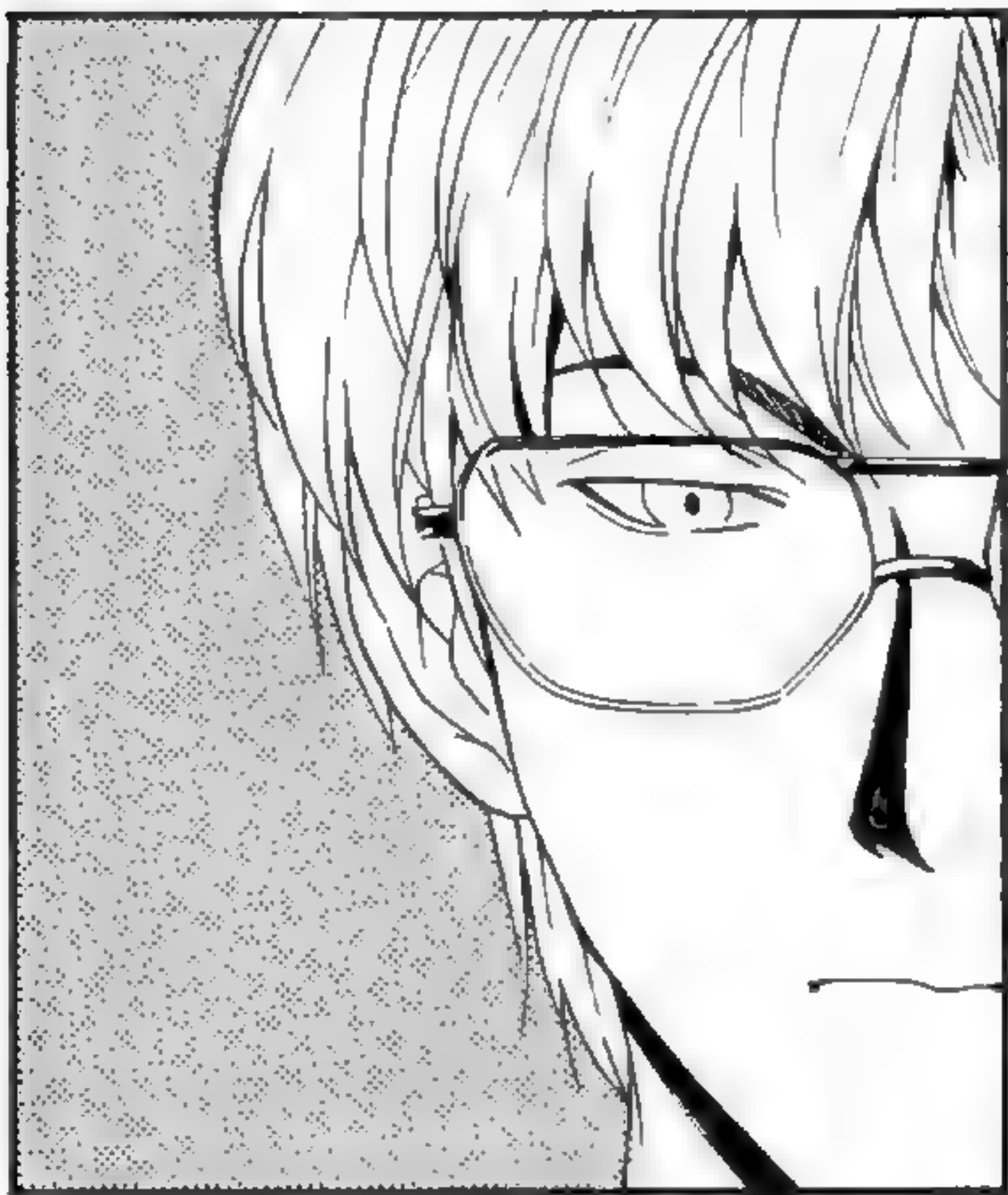














...BUT
HE'S
WATCHING
MURAKAMI
2 DAN
AND...

I FIGURED
HE'D BE
HERE TO
SEE AKIRA
TOYA'S
GAME...

IT'S
OGATA
9 DAN!



COULD
THEY HAVE
BEEN SERIOUS?
WHY ELSE
WOULD OGATA
BE WATCHING
THEM?

...THAT KID,
THE ONE
ISUMI AND
THE OTHERS
WERE CALLING
TOYA'S RIVAL!



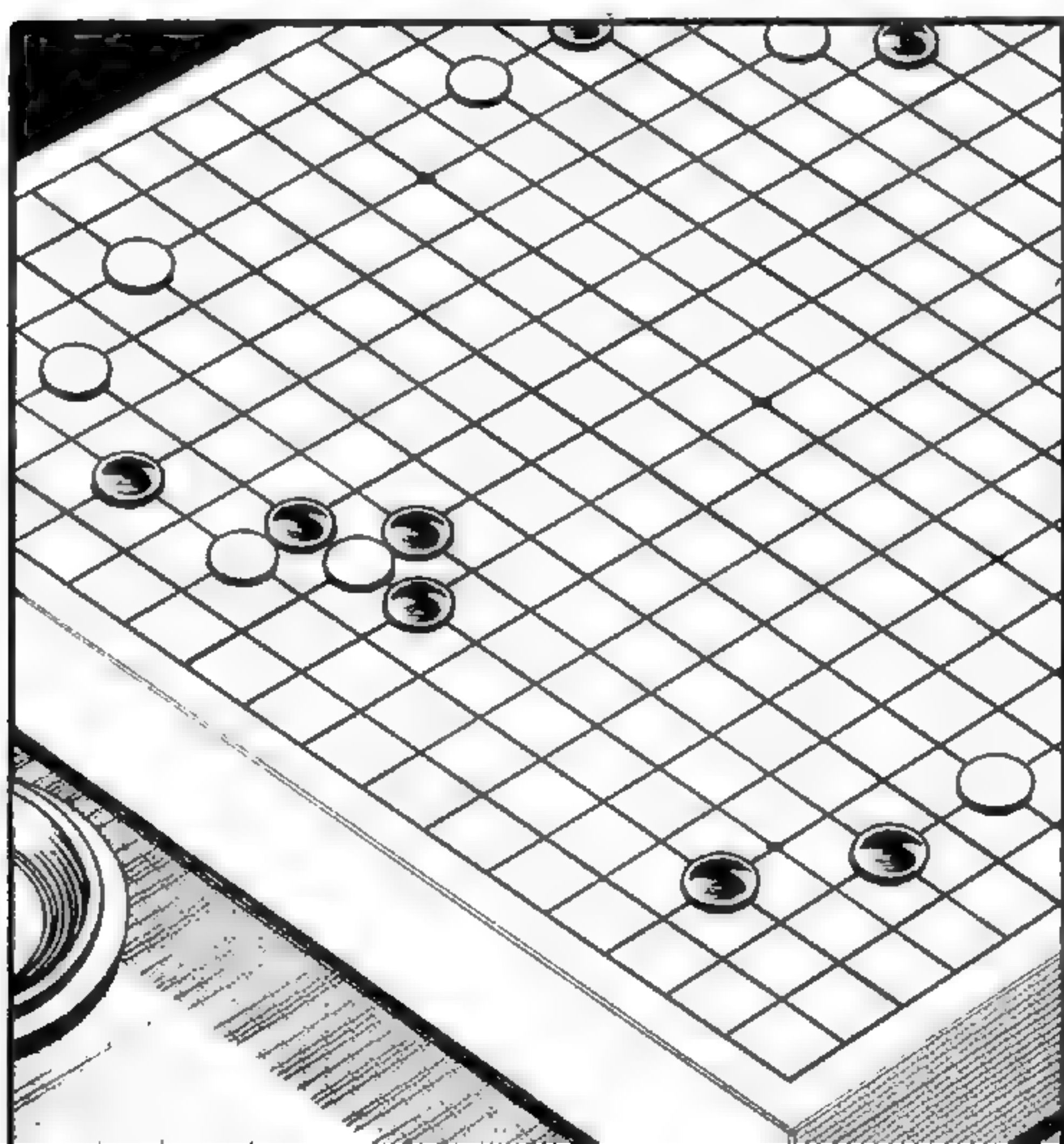
But I
know
why
you're
here...

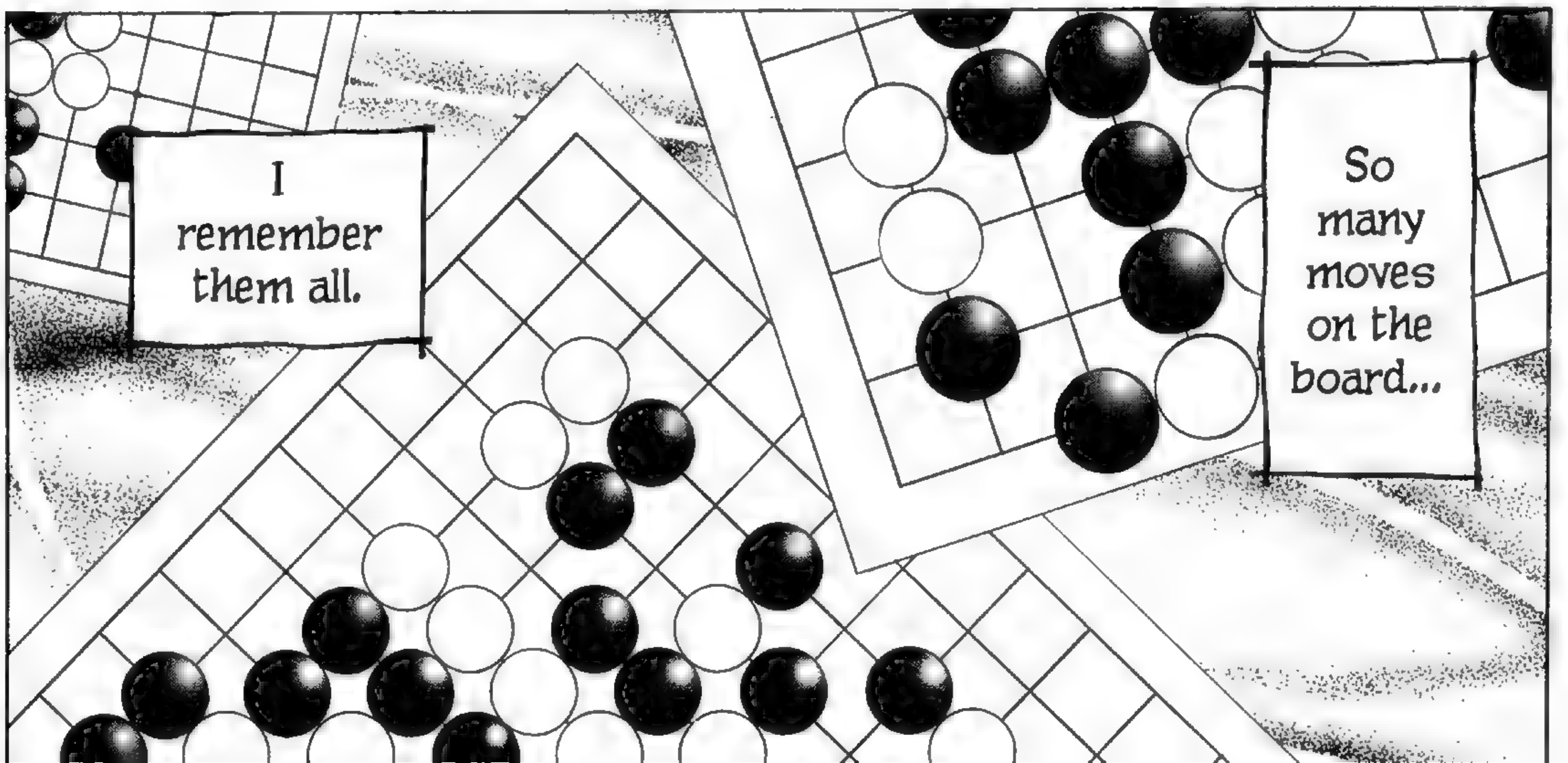


Akira's
playing
over
there!



You
want to
see how
Hikaru's
doing.









A
space has
opened up!

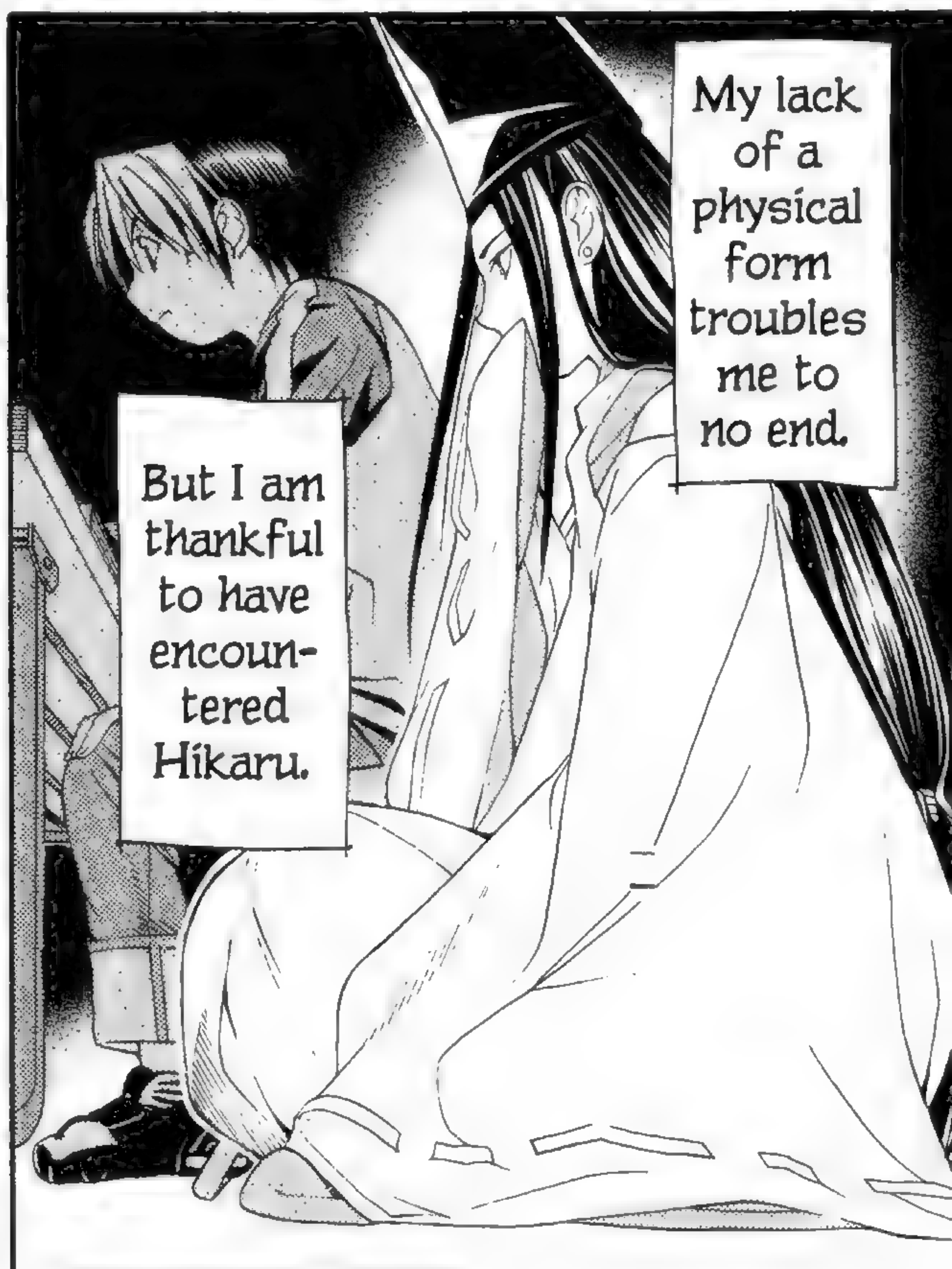


Come!
Let us play
a game.





I cannot
hope
for any
more
than
this.



My lack
of a
physical
form
troubles
me to
no end.

But I am
thankful
to have
encoun-
tered
Hikaru.



So,
what
do you
think of
Hikaru?



You
would
do well
to watch
him
closely.



Someday,
he will become
the rival of
everyone here —
including
you.



BUT I NEVER KNOW WHICH
PAGES WILL BE IN COLOR
BECAUSE I HAVE TO FINISH
MY STORYBOARDS TWO
MONTHS IN ADVANCE.

SOMETIMES
THIS MANGA
HAS COLOR
PAGES
WHEN IT'S
SERIALIZED...

HIKARU NO GO STORYBOARDS

(20)

YUMI
HOTTA



THAT'S USUALLY HOW IT IS.

BECAUSE OF THAT, I
ALWAYS COME UP WITH
AN ODD-NUMBERED
PAGE COUNT.

...and
end on a
two-page
spread.

The story
will start
on the left
side...

IN
SHONEN
JUMP...



SO, SOMETIMES
AN EXTRA PAGE
IS ADDED.

Or the title
page might be
a two-page
spread.

An ad will
appear after
the title page.

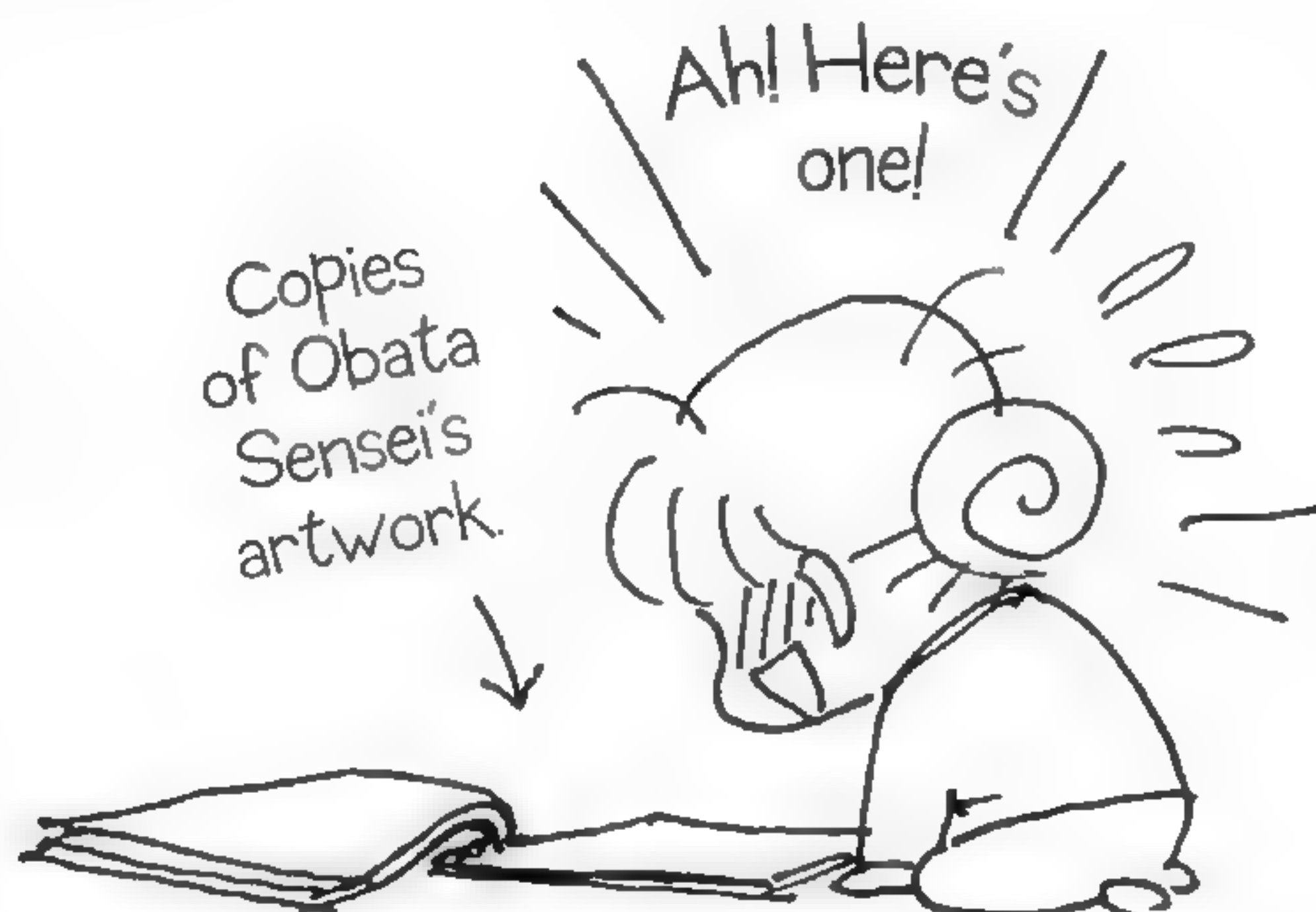
BUT
WHEN
THERE
ARE
COLOR
PAGES...



IT'S ALWAYS
EXCITING TO
SEE WHAT'S
BEEN ADDED.

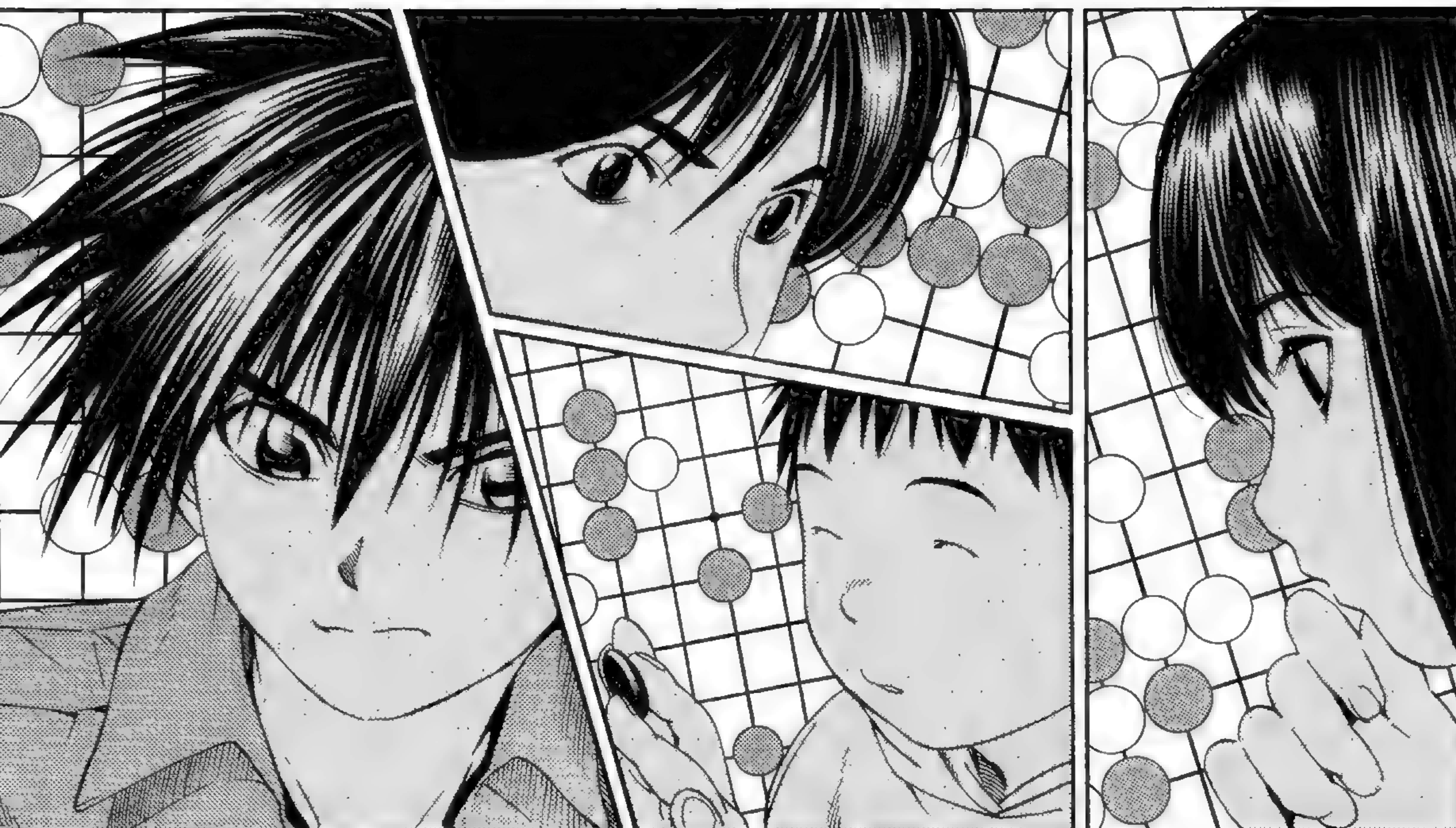
Copies
of Obata
Sensei's
artwork.

Ah! Here's
one!



THIS HAPPENED
RECENTLY IN
GAMES 51 AND 55.

AND OF COURSE,
OBATA SENSEI'S
THE ONE WHO
ADDS THE EXTRA
PAGE.



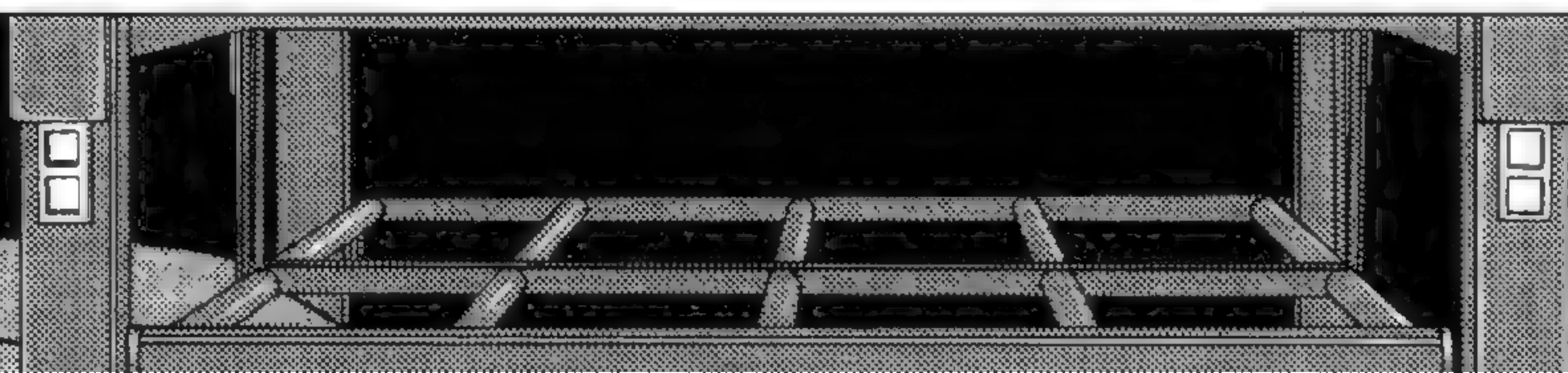
Game 59

"Toya Looks Back"



HIKARU
SHINDO

SHINICHI
MURAKAMI







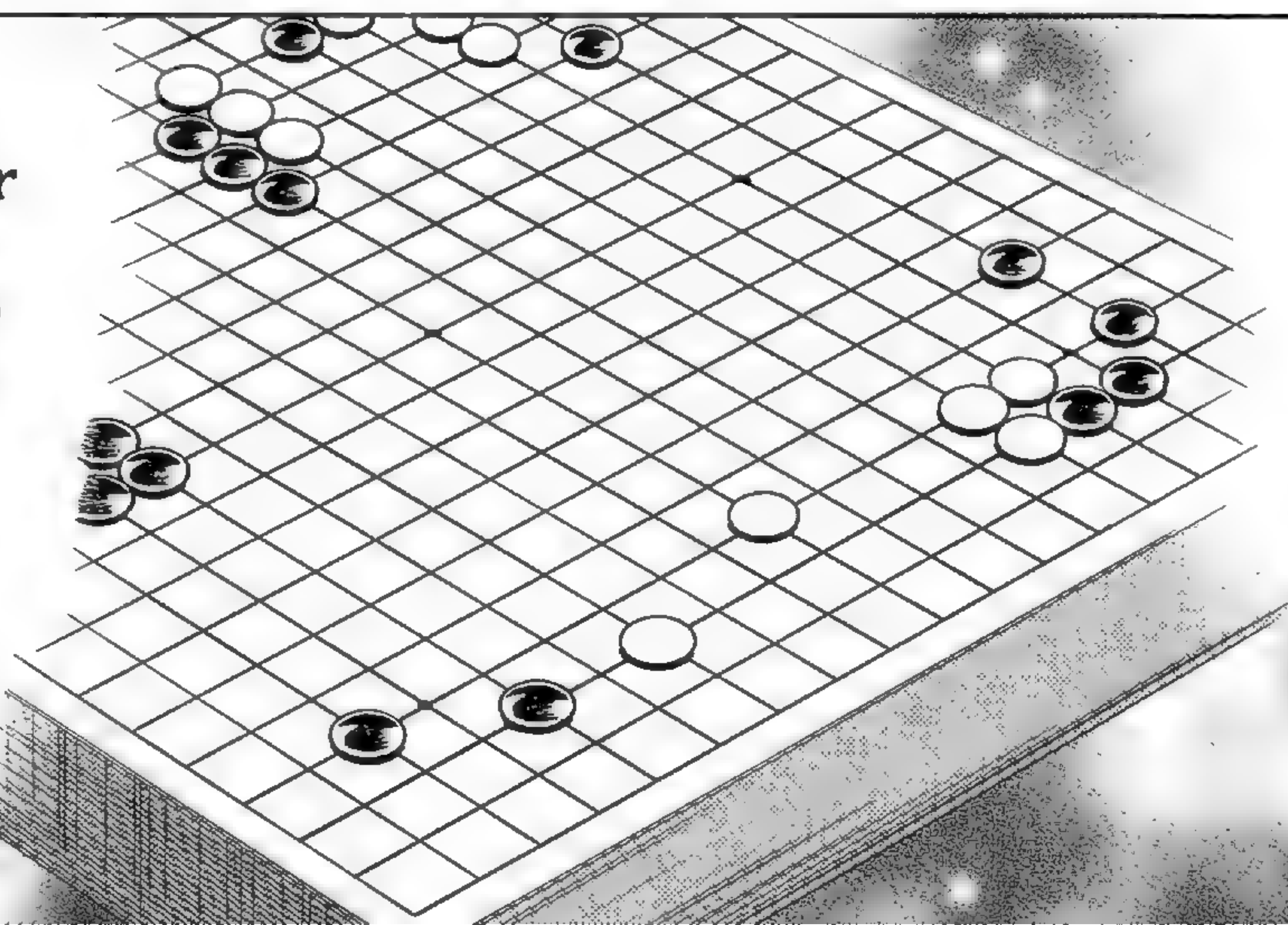
But he's
not much
better
than the
insei.



Hikaru's
opponent
is a pro.



...how far
Hikaru
could go
against
this
player.



Still, I
wonder...

You'll
see
Hikaru
grow.

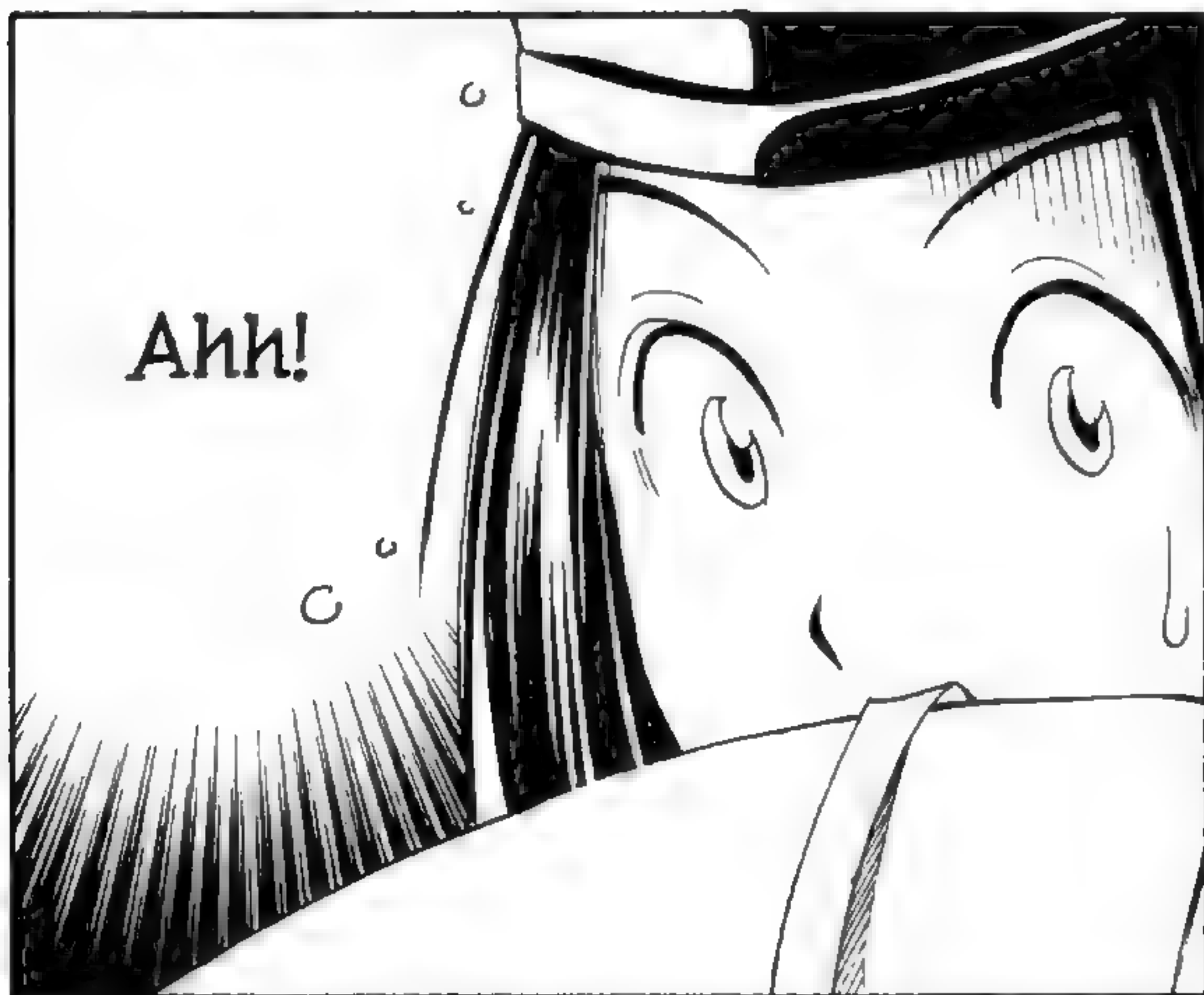


...that's
only
for
now.

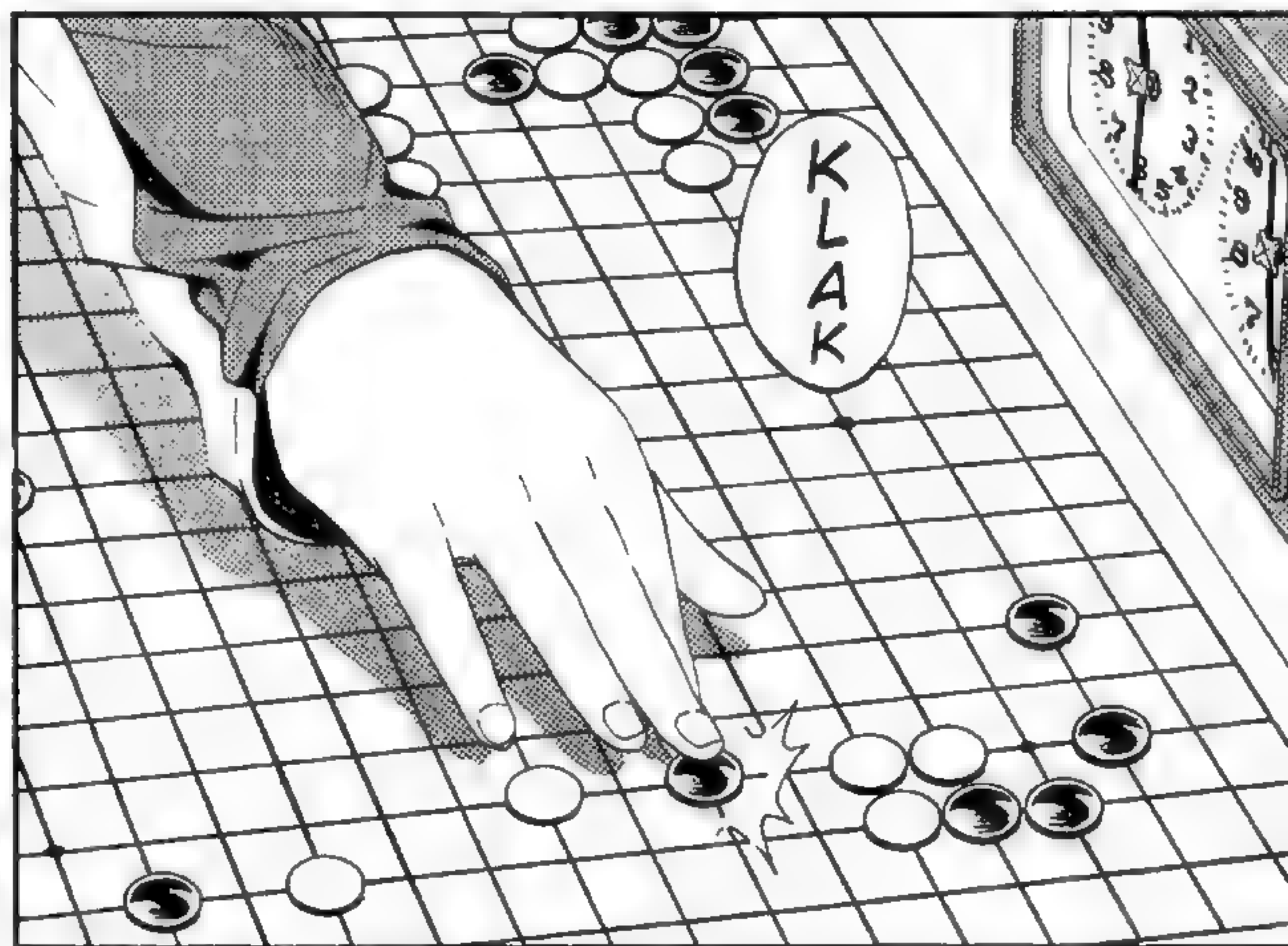


But...

Ahh!



K
L
A
K

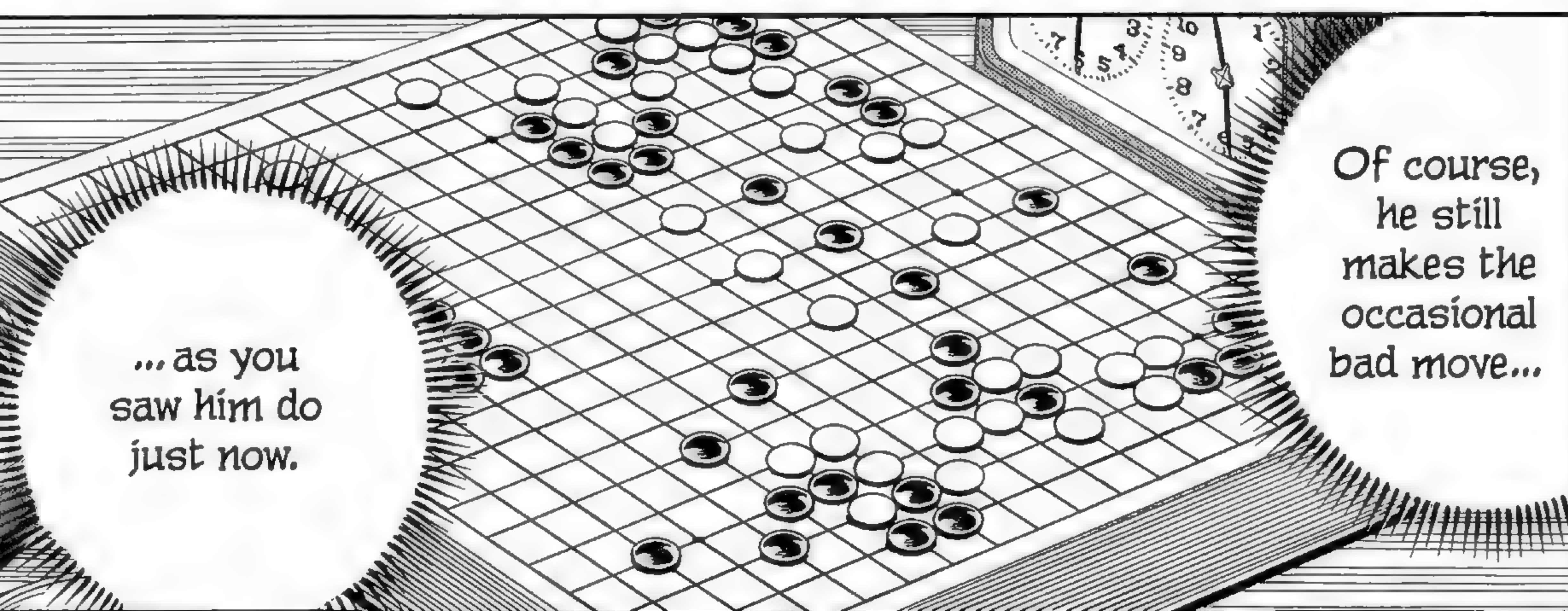


Of
course, he
still has a
long way
to go.



That was a
bad move,
Hikaru!



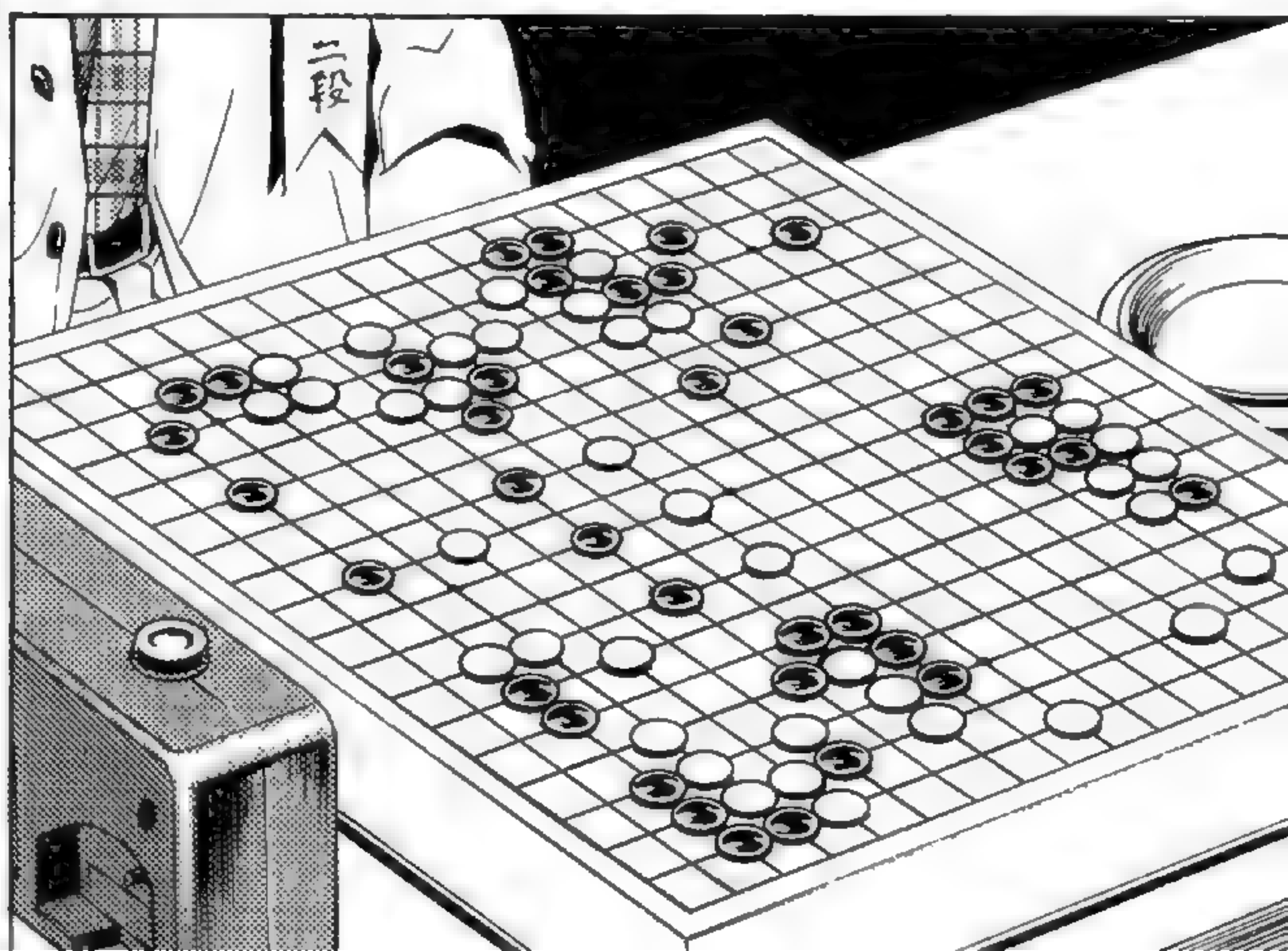


He turned
that bad
move into
a favorable
position!

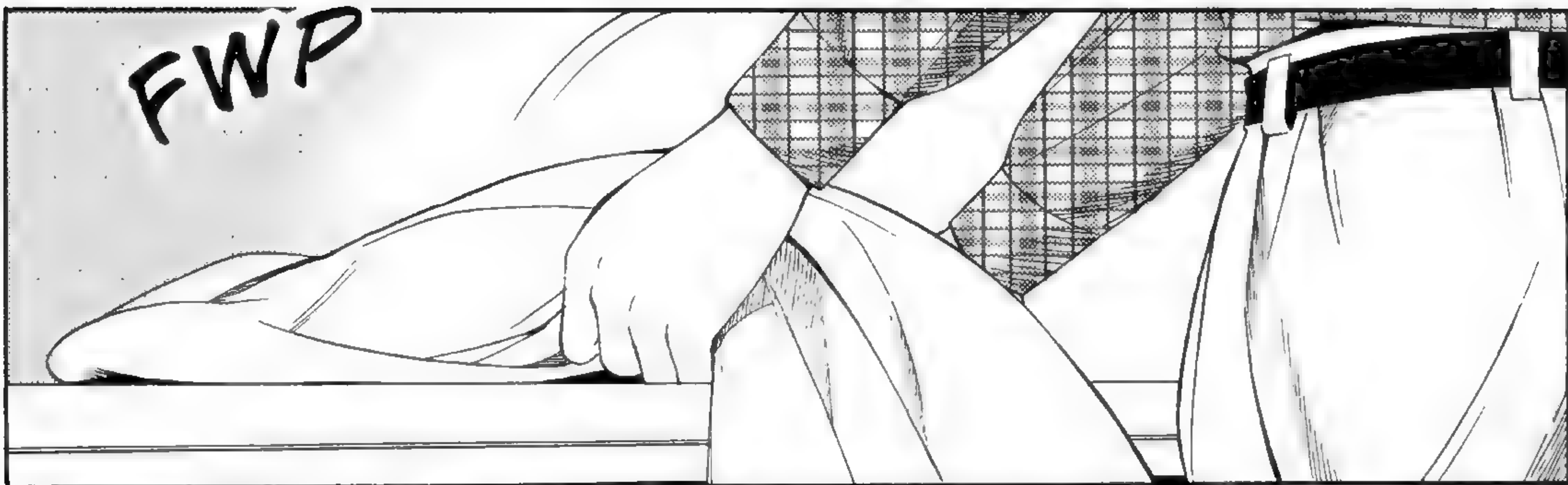


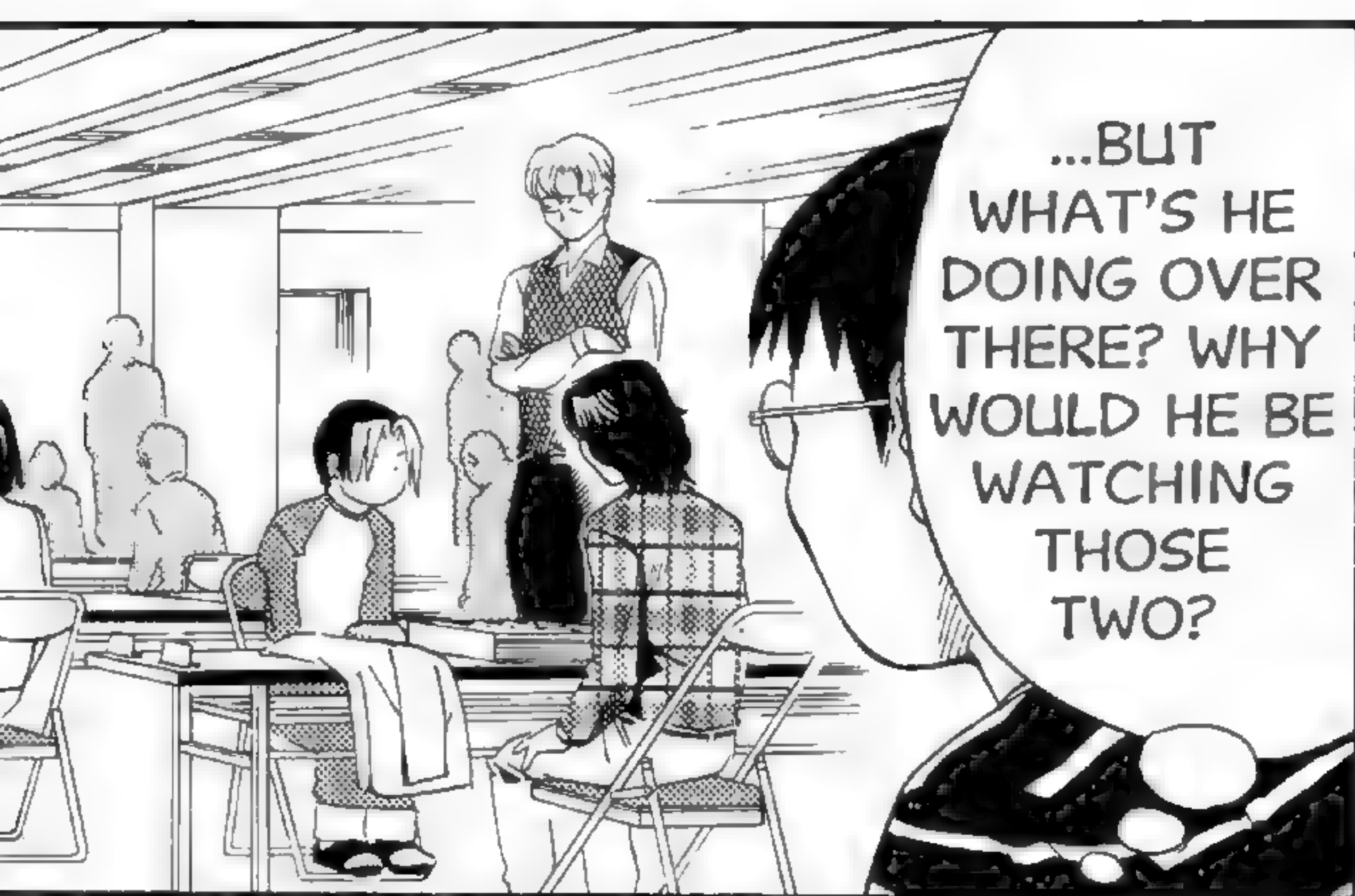
He
managed
to turn a
bad move
into a
good
one!

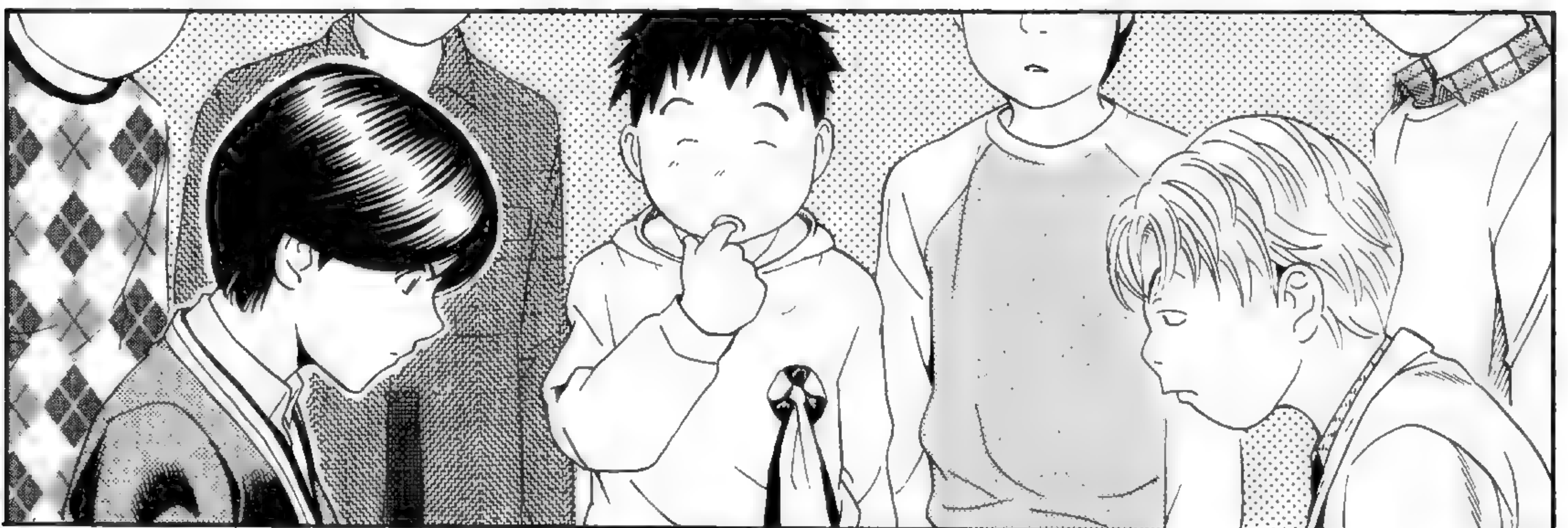
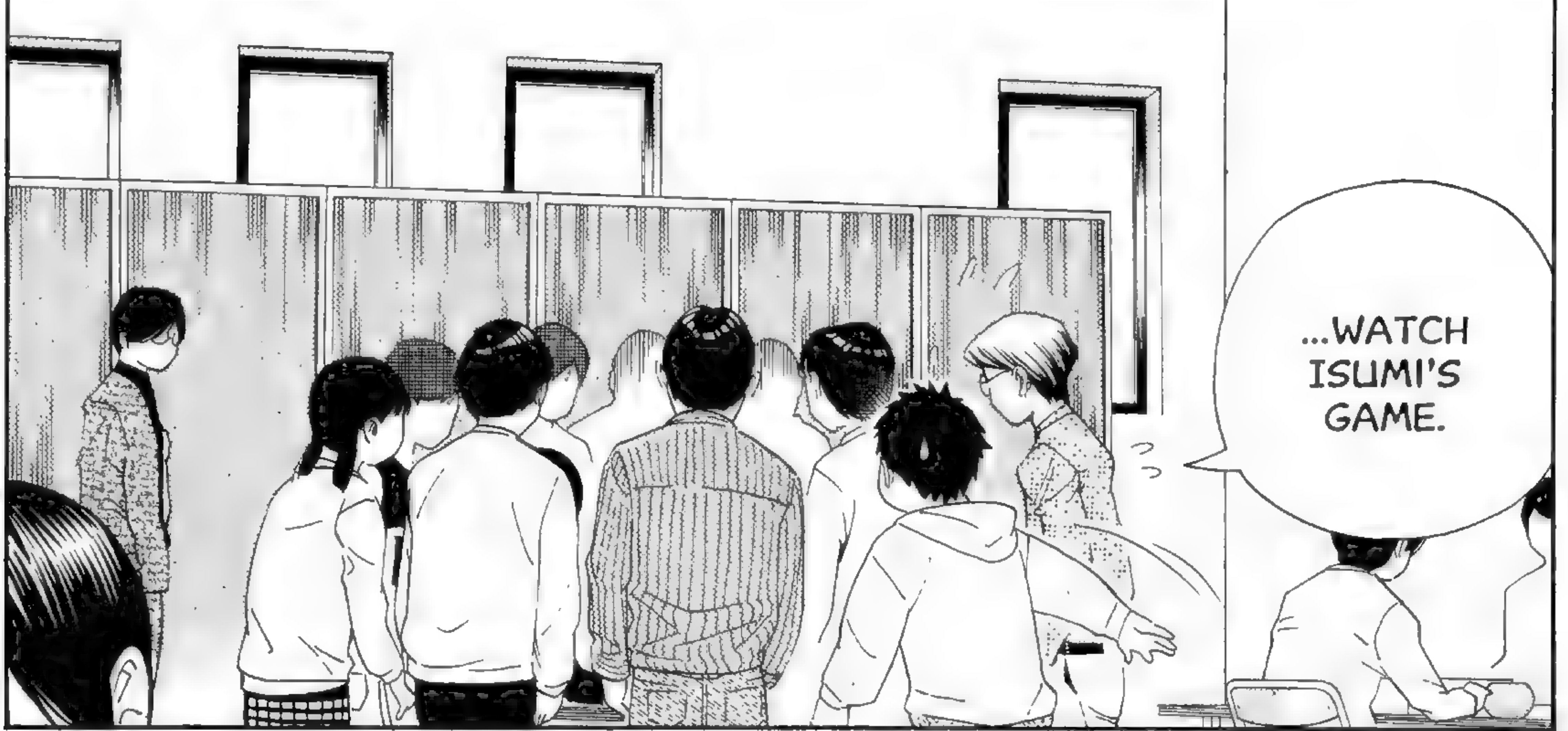
That was
definitely
a bad
move
when he
made it.



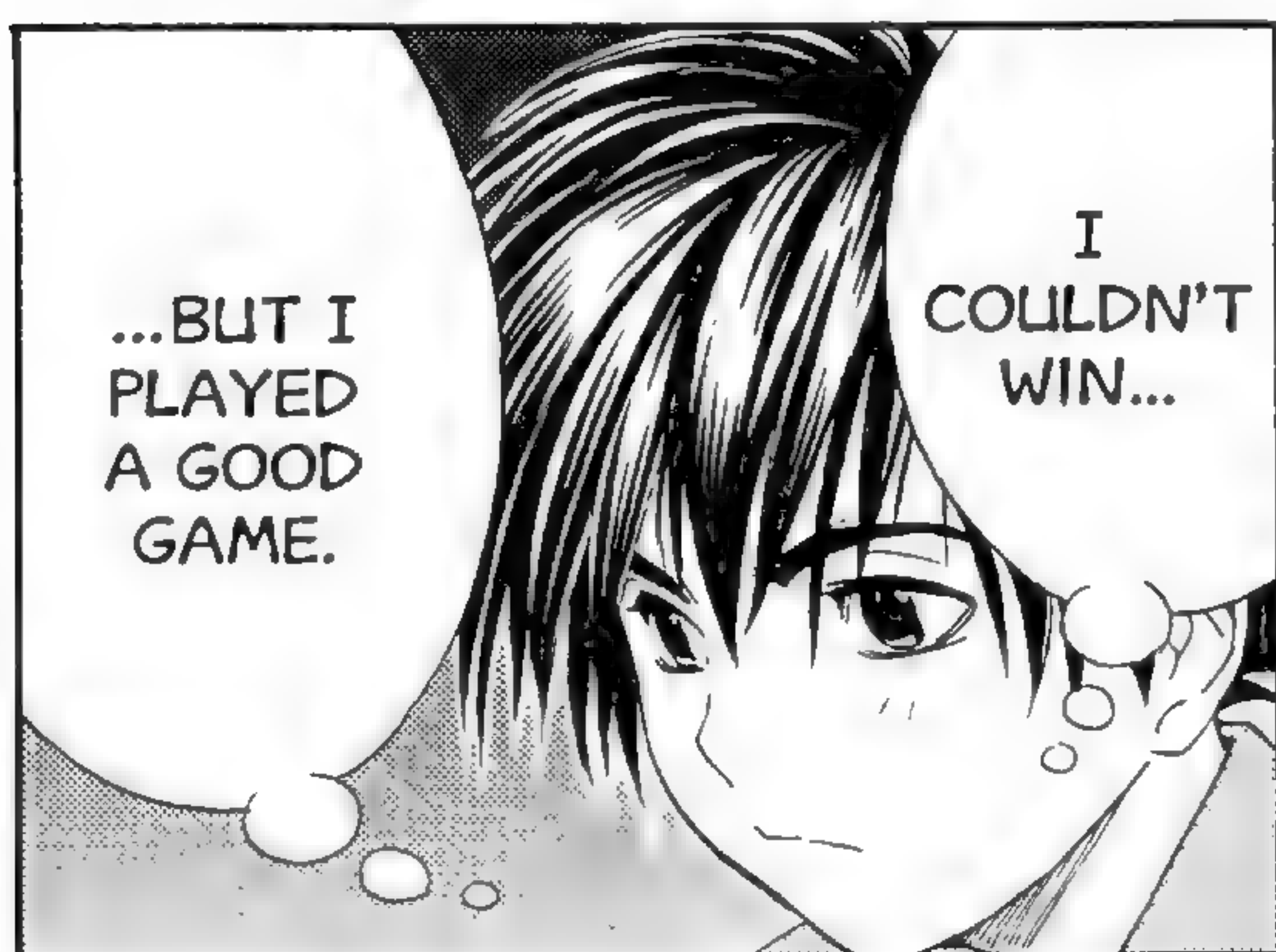


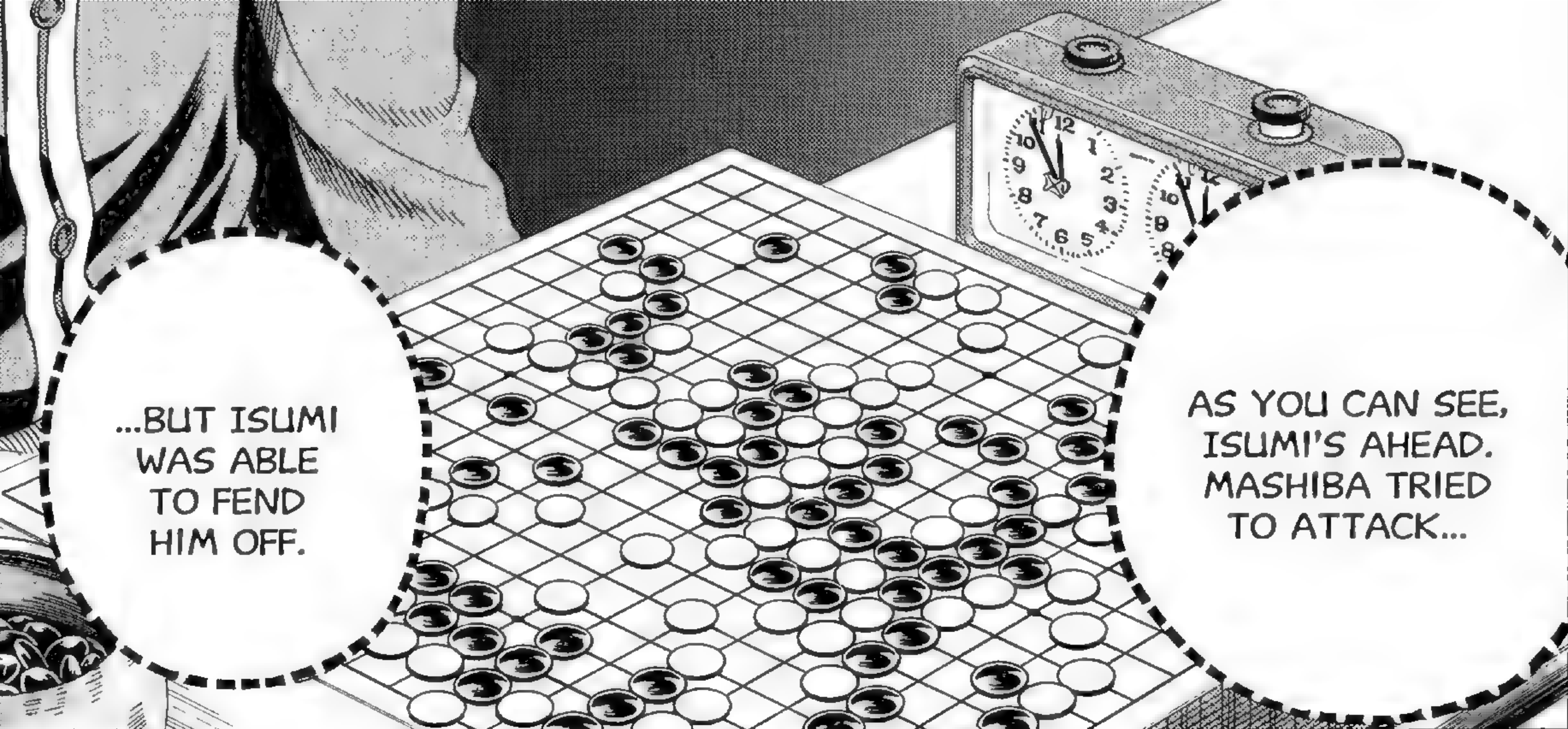












...BUT ISUMI
WAS ABLE
TO FEND
HIM OFF.

AS YOU CAN SEE,
ISUMI'S AHEAD.
MASHIBA TRIED
TO ATTACK...



MASHIBA'S
GETTING
WHAT HE
DESERVES!



KICK



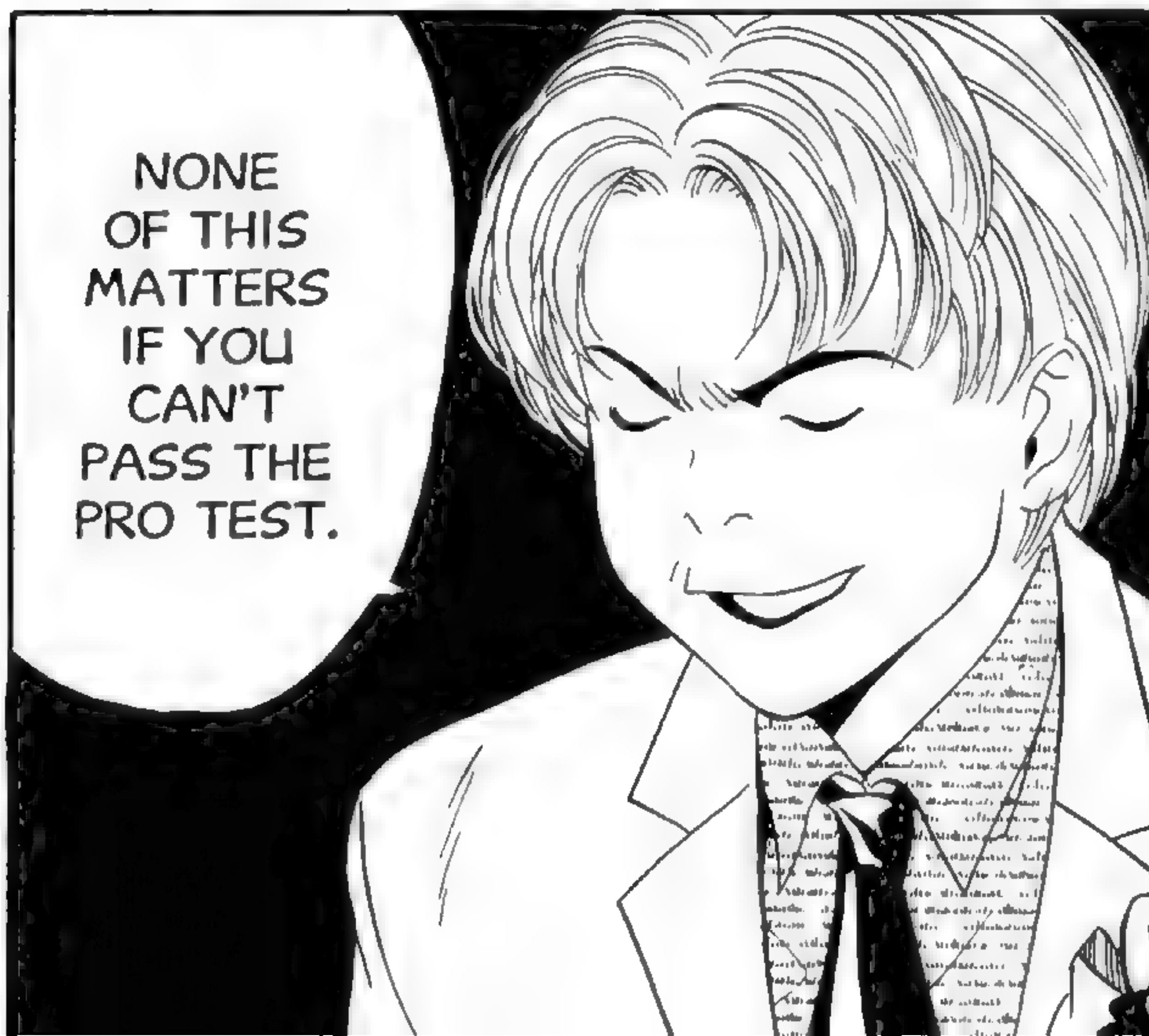
I CAN'T
MAKE
UP THE
DIFFERENCE.

.....

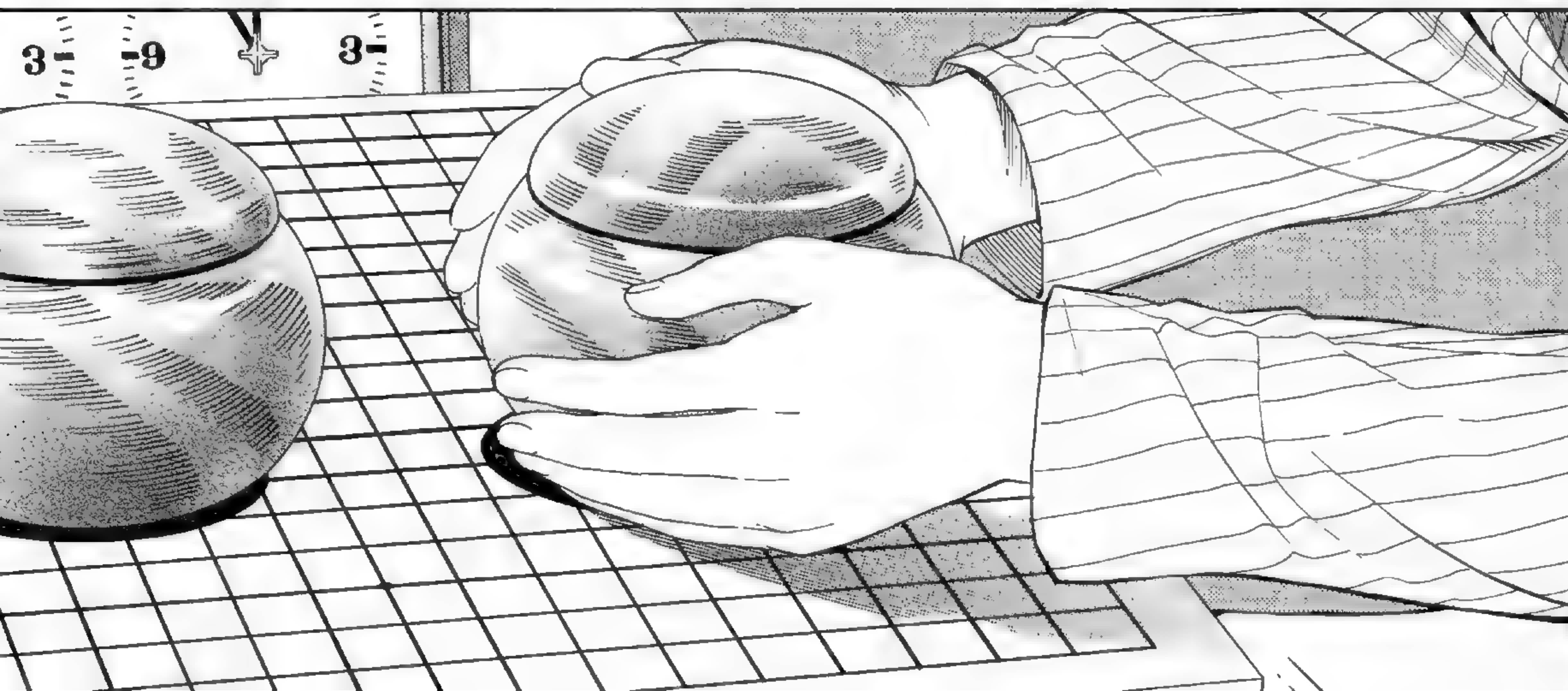


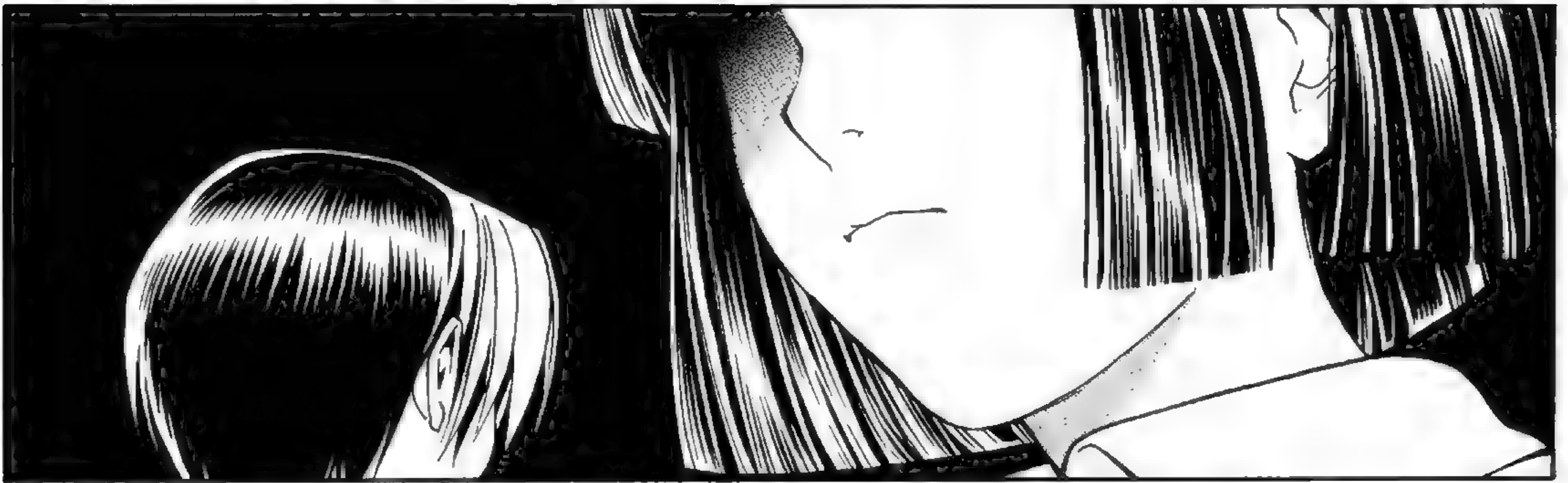
KICK















But he
came a
little too
late...

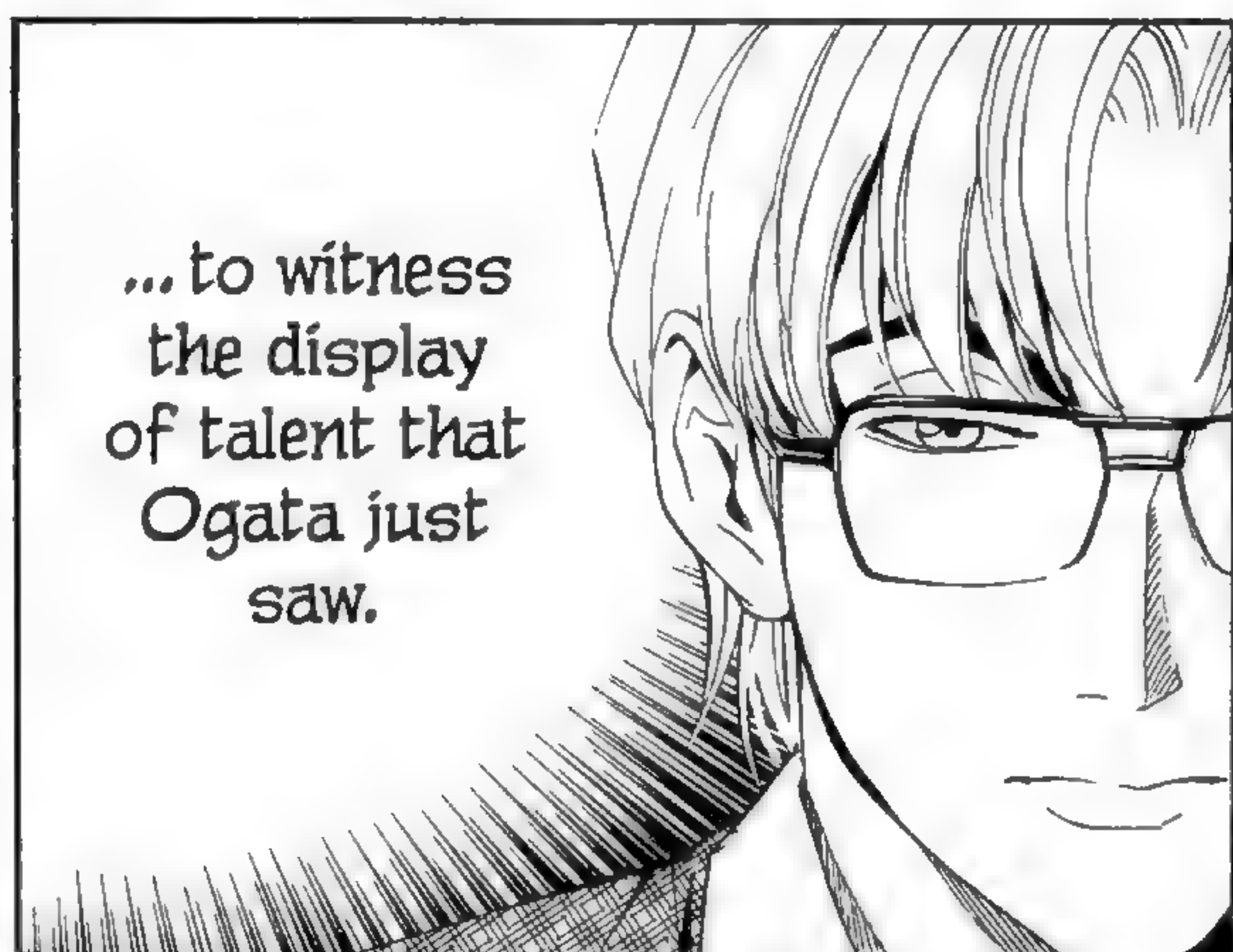
KLAK



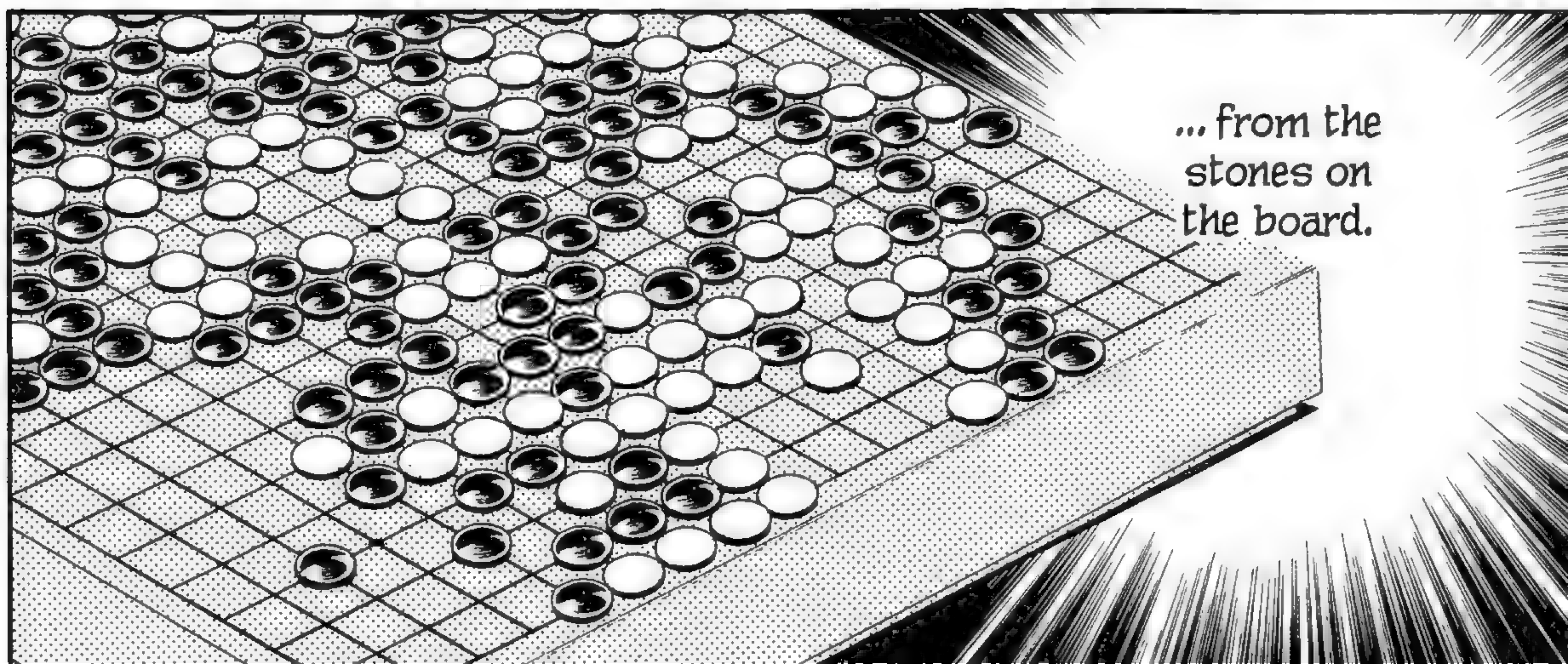
Akira is
watching.



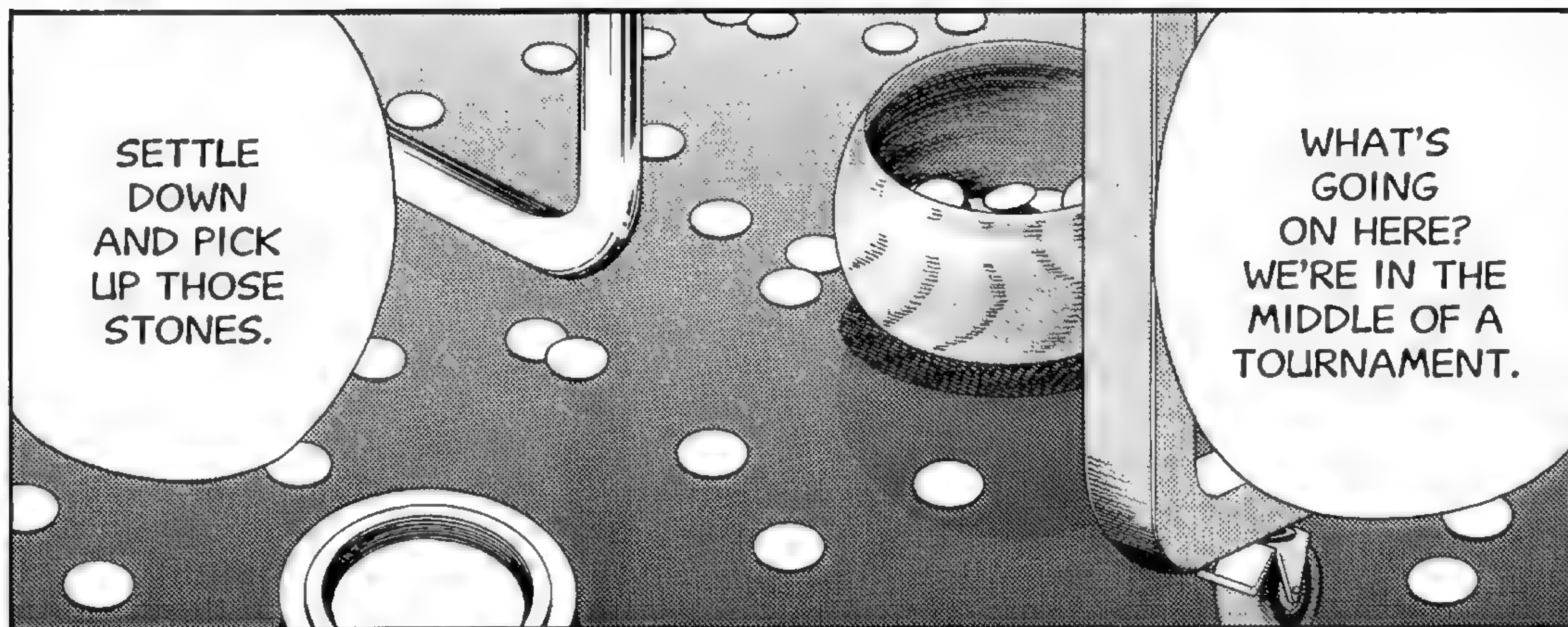
I wonder
if Akira
will be
able
to tell
that...



...to witness
the display
of talent that
Ogata just
saw.



... from the
stones on
the board.





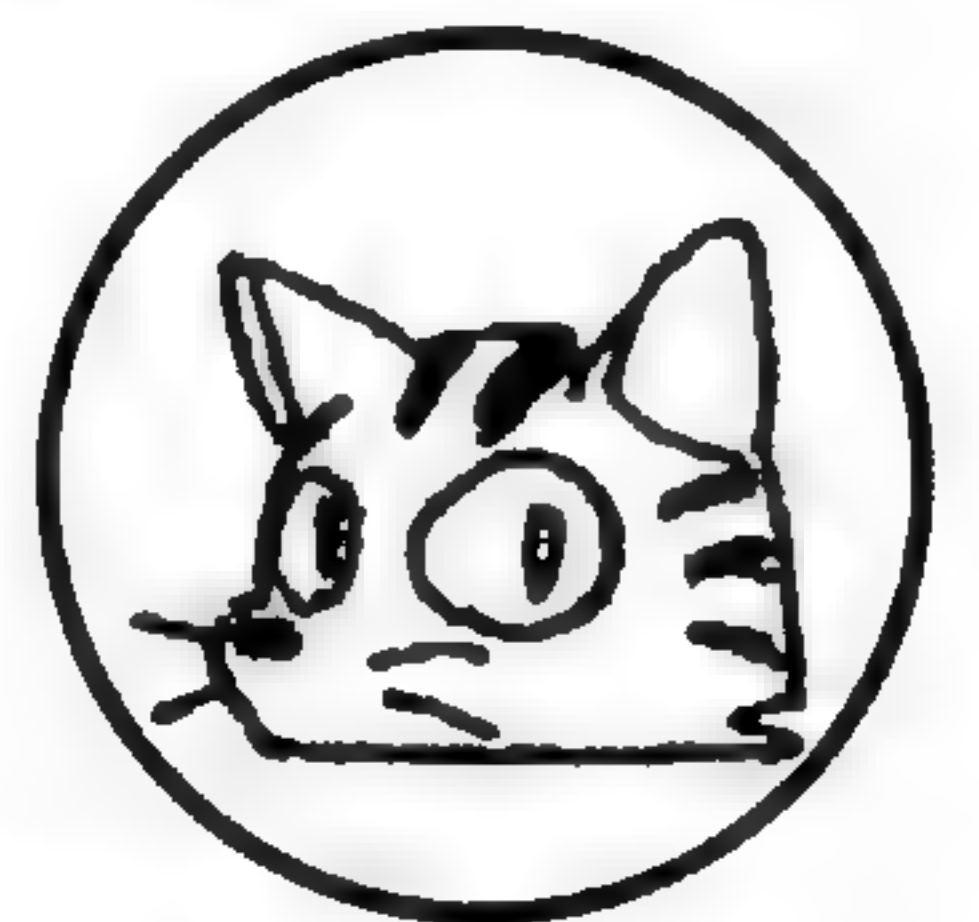


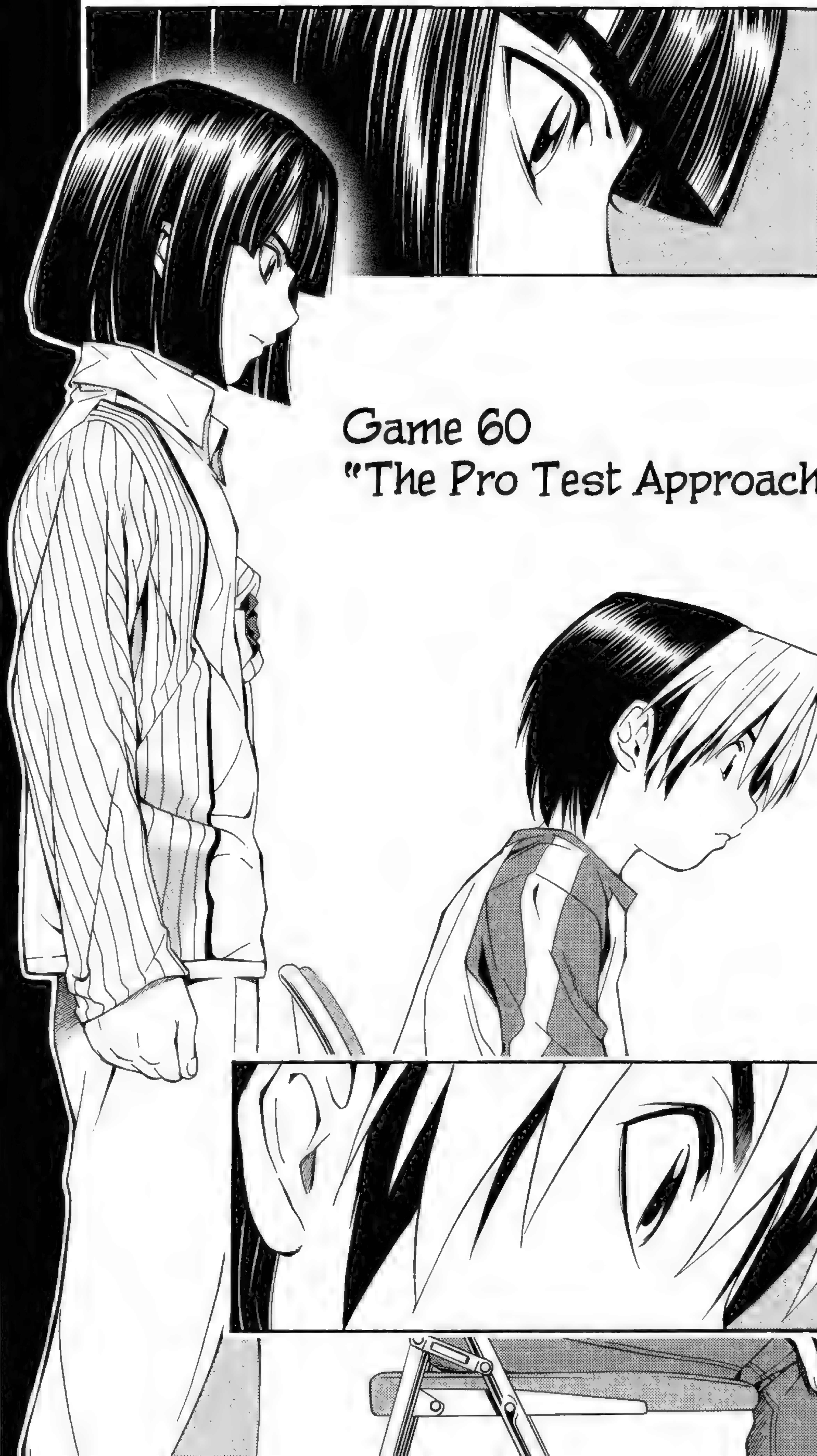
A WORD ABOUT HIKARU NO GO

THE YOUNG LIONS TOURNAMENT



THE YOUNG LIONS TOURNAMENT IS BASED ON THE HOSU SEN (YOUNG PHOENIX TOURNAMENT). THE GENERAL PUBLIC CAN WATCH THIS TOURNAMENT FOR FREE. THE FIRST AND SECOND ROUNDS TAKE PLACE EVERY YEAR IN THE MIDDLE OF MAY. THE THIRD AND FOURTH ROUNDS AND THE FINALS HAPPEN IN JUNE. GO INSEI!

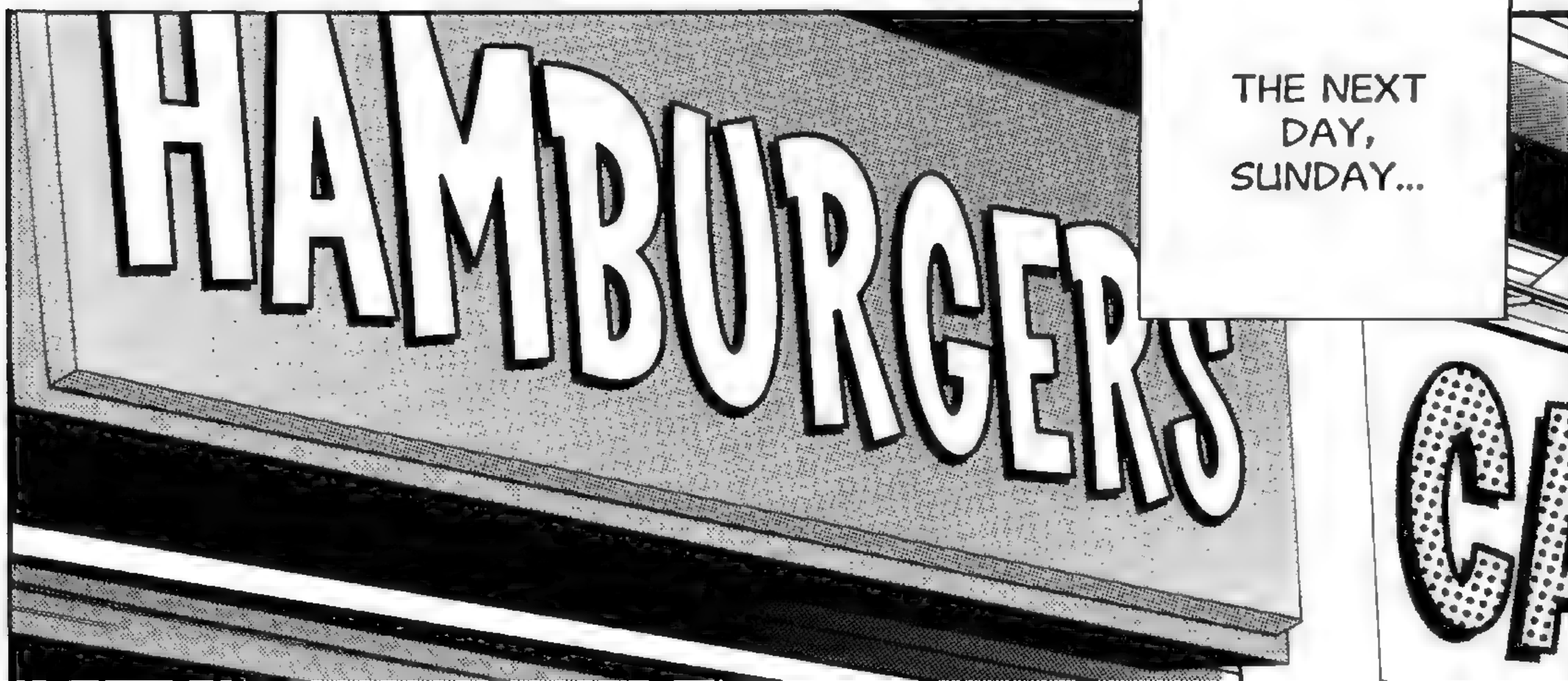
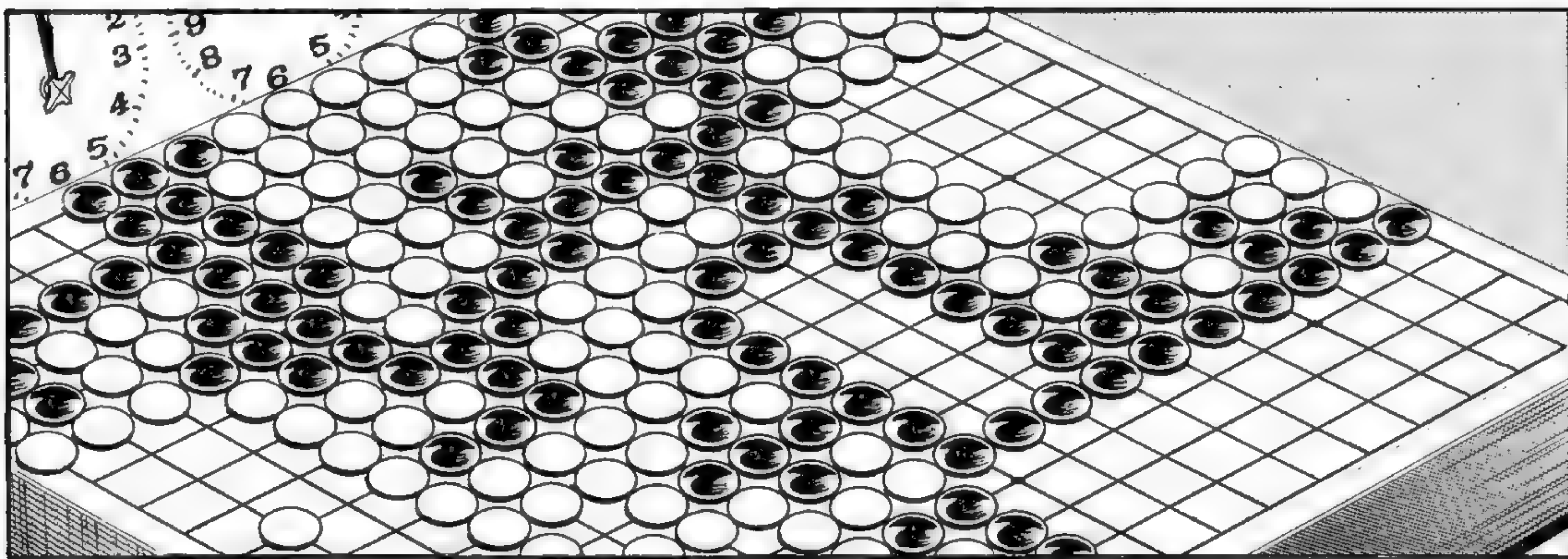




Game 60
"The Pro Test Approaches!"





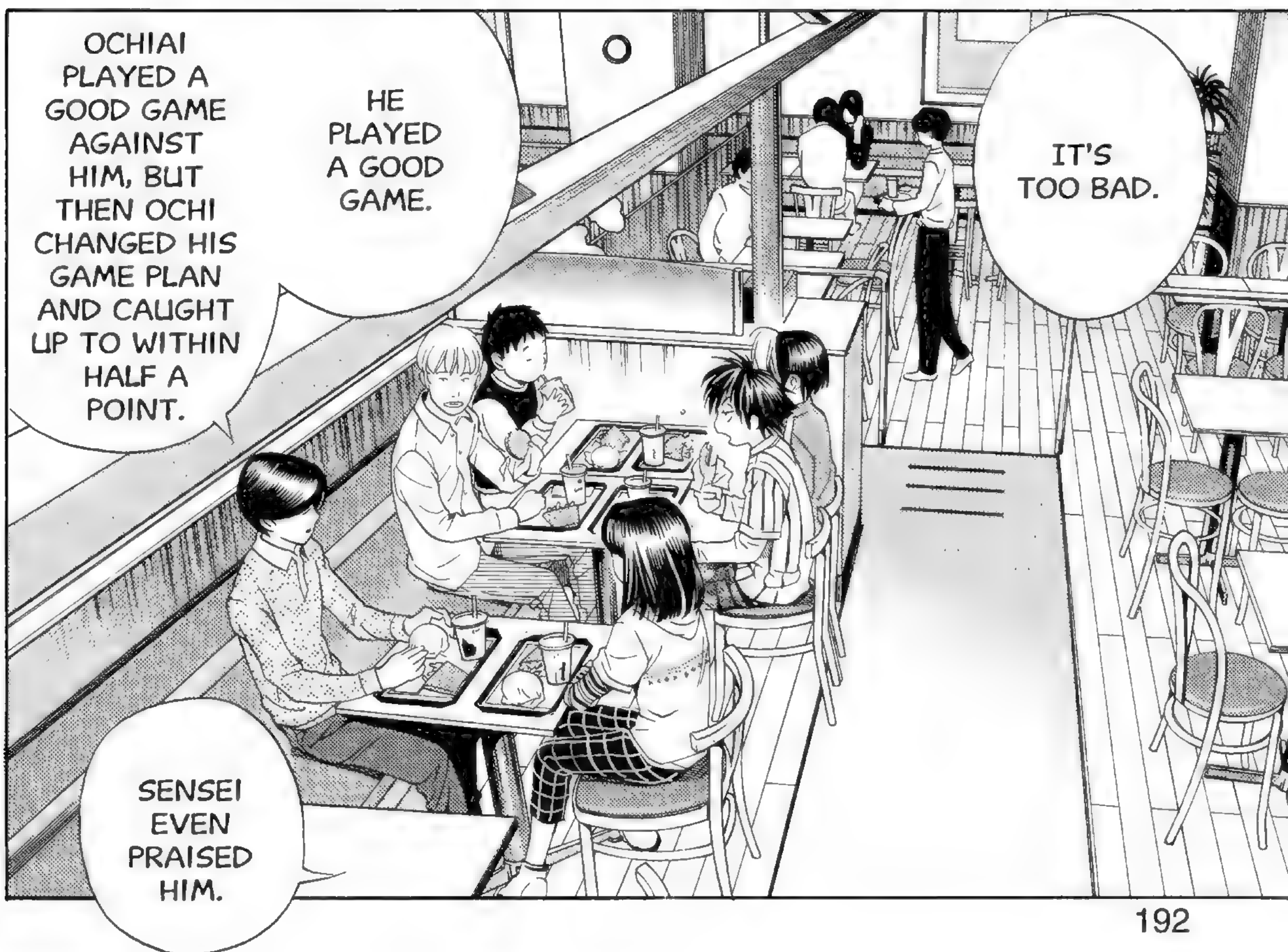


THE NEXT
DAY,
SUNDAY...



*About US \$5







WE'RE ABOUT EVEN.

HOW'RE YOU DOING AGAINST HIM, ISUMI?

OCHI'S REALLY STRONG. I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO WIN A GAME AGAINST HIM.



I ONLY JUST NOTICED. EVERY TIME HE LOSES, HE GOES TO THE BATHROOM AND DOESN'T COME OUT.

...THAT WHEN OCHI LOSES, HE LOCKS HIMSELF IN THE BATHROOM?



I'M ABOUT FIFTY-FIFTY, TOO. I DON'T DO TOO BAD AGAINST HIM.



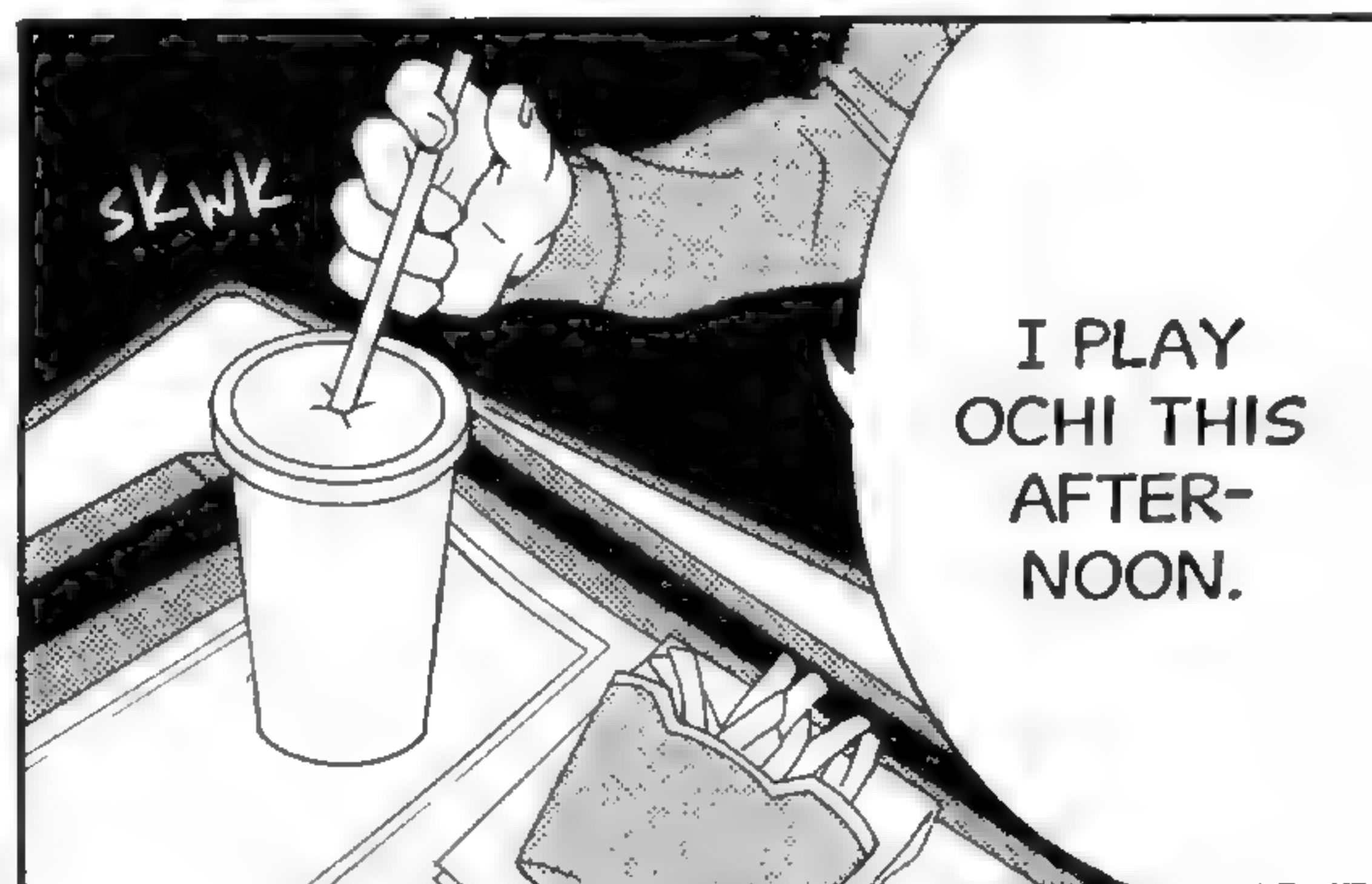
DID YOU KNOW...



WONDER WHAT *THAT'S* ALL ABOUT.

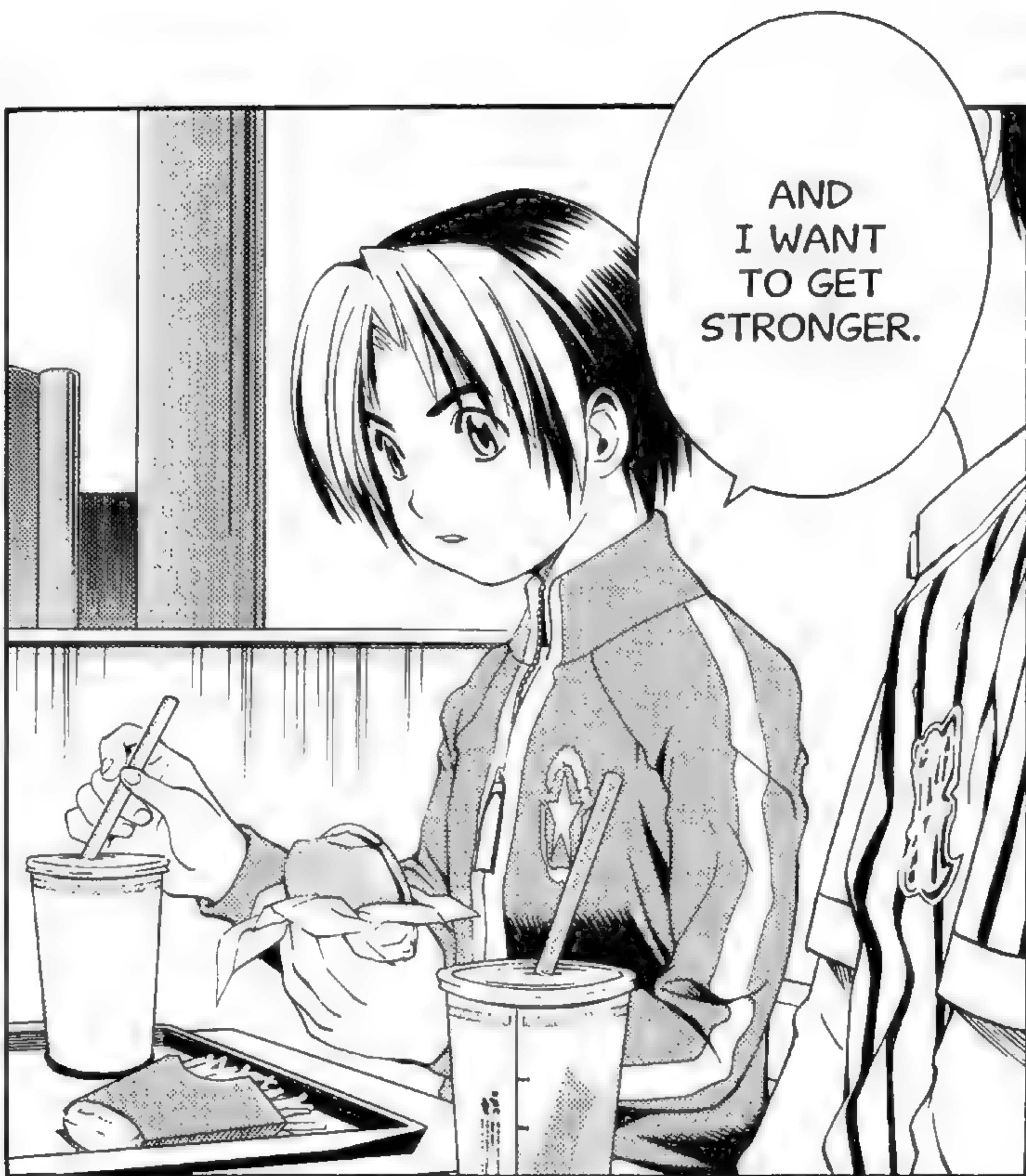
Wow

THEN HE STARTS TAPPING HIS FINGER ON THE WALL AND MUTTERING.





I WANT
TO PLAY
MORE.



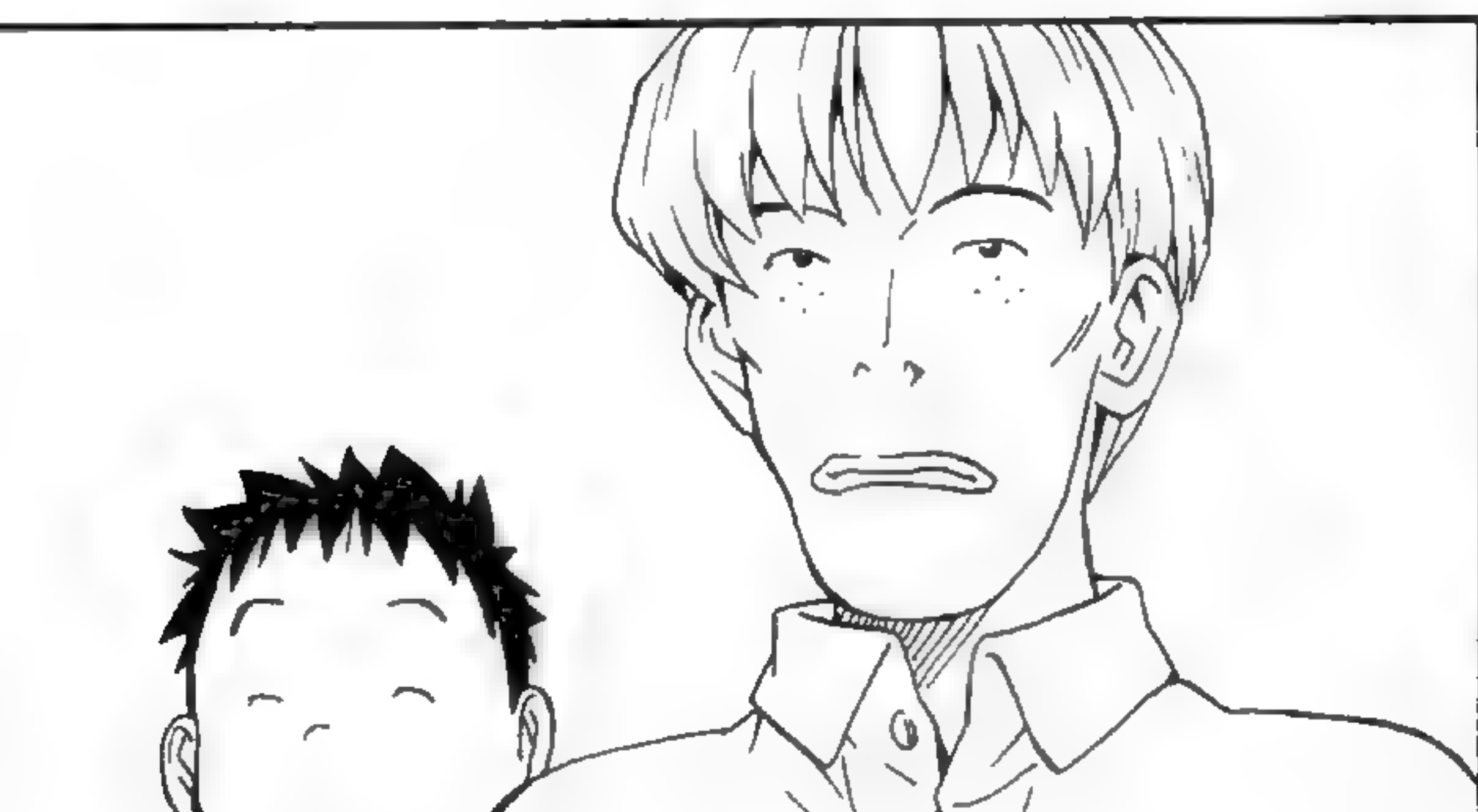
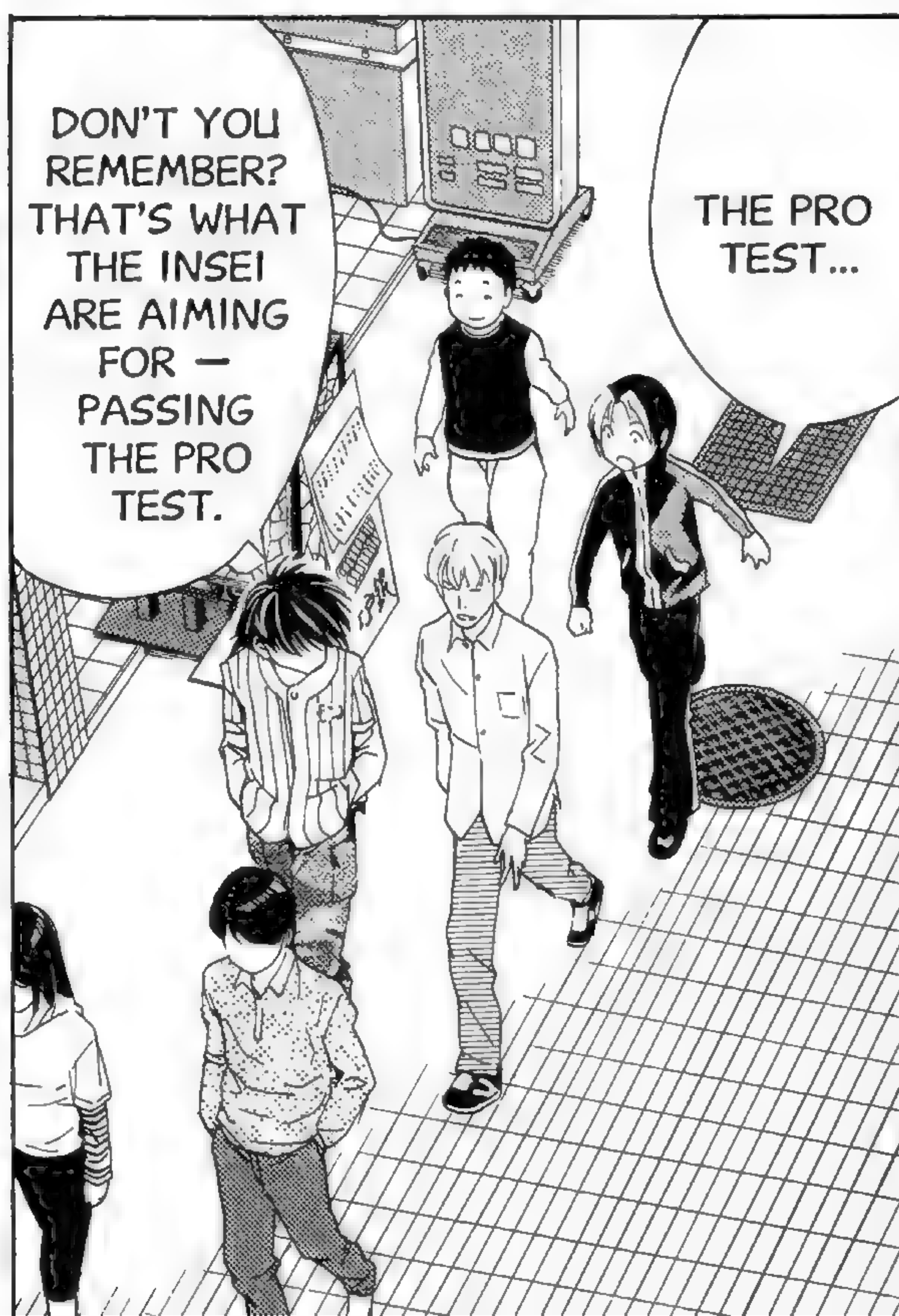
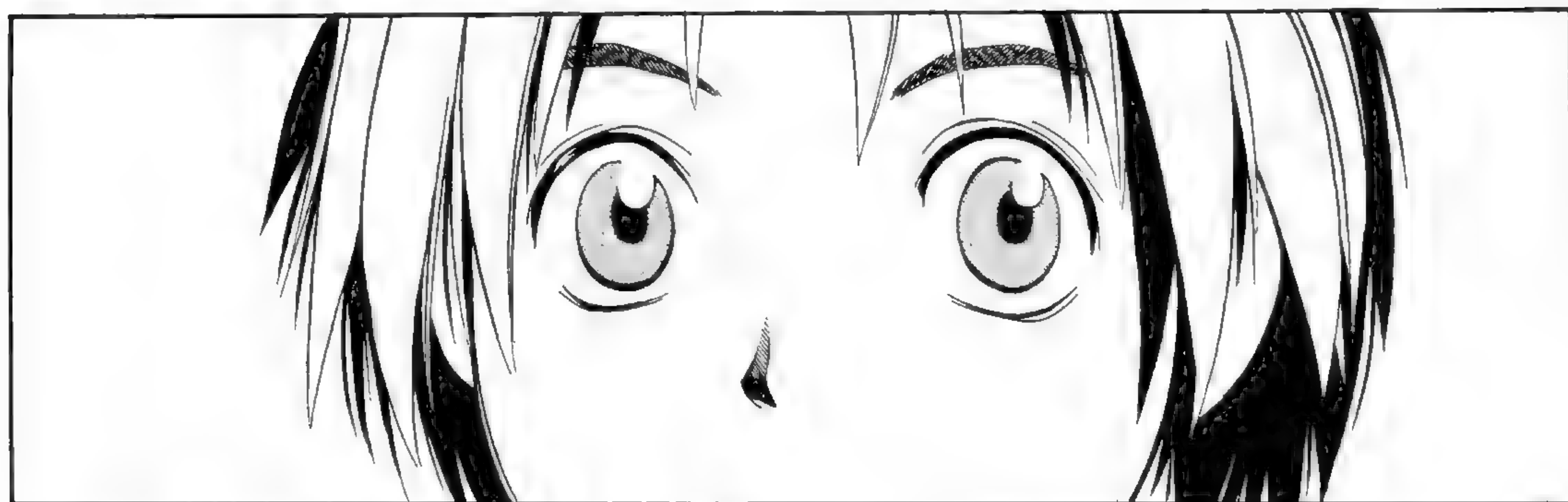
AND
I WANT
TO GET
STRONGER.



I WANT TO
PLAY MORE
GAMES LIKE
YESTER-
DAY!

LOTS MORE!







AND
WHEN
THE TIME
COMES...



YOU'LL
GET TO
PLAY
LOTS OF
INTENSE
GAMES.



...ALL OF
US HERE
WILL TRY TO
ELIMINATE
EACH OTHER.



I'M
SURPRISED
YOU FOUND
ME.



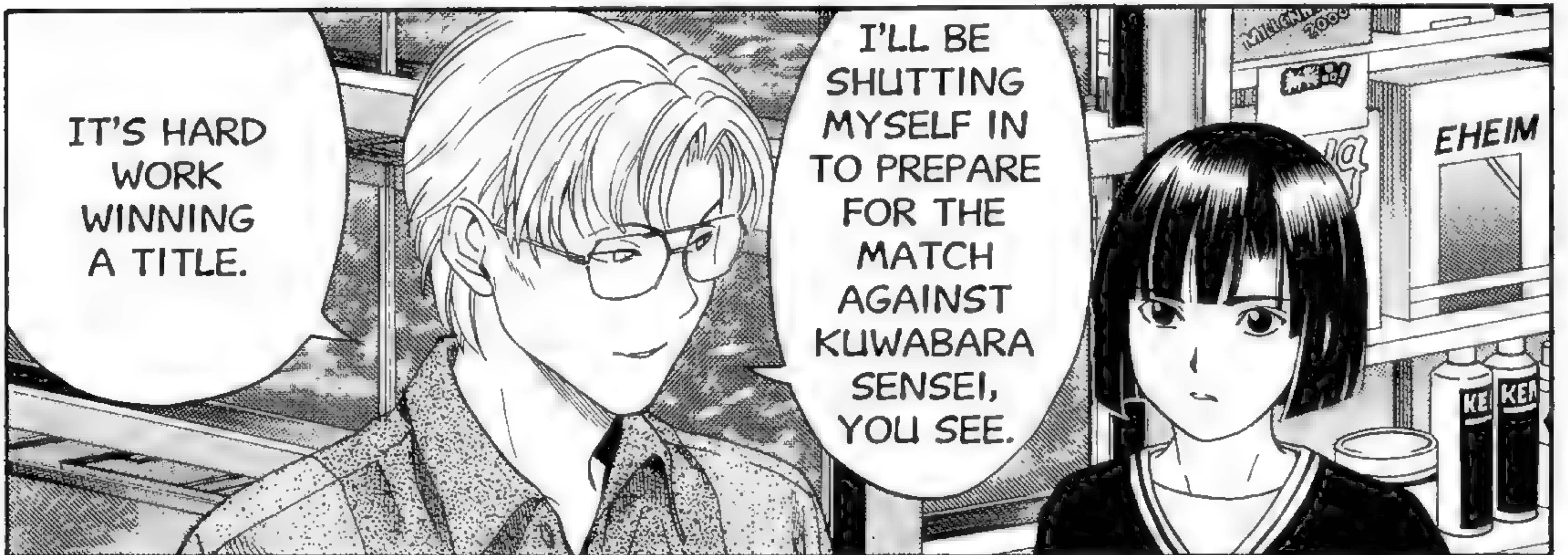
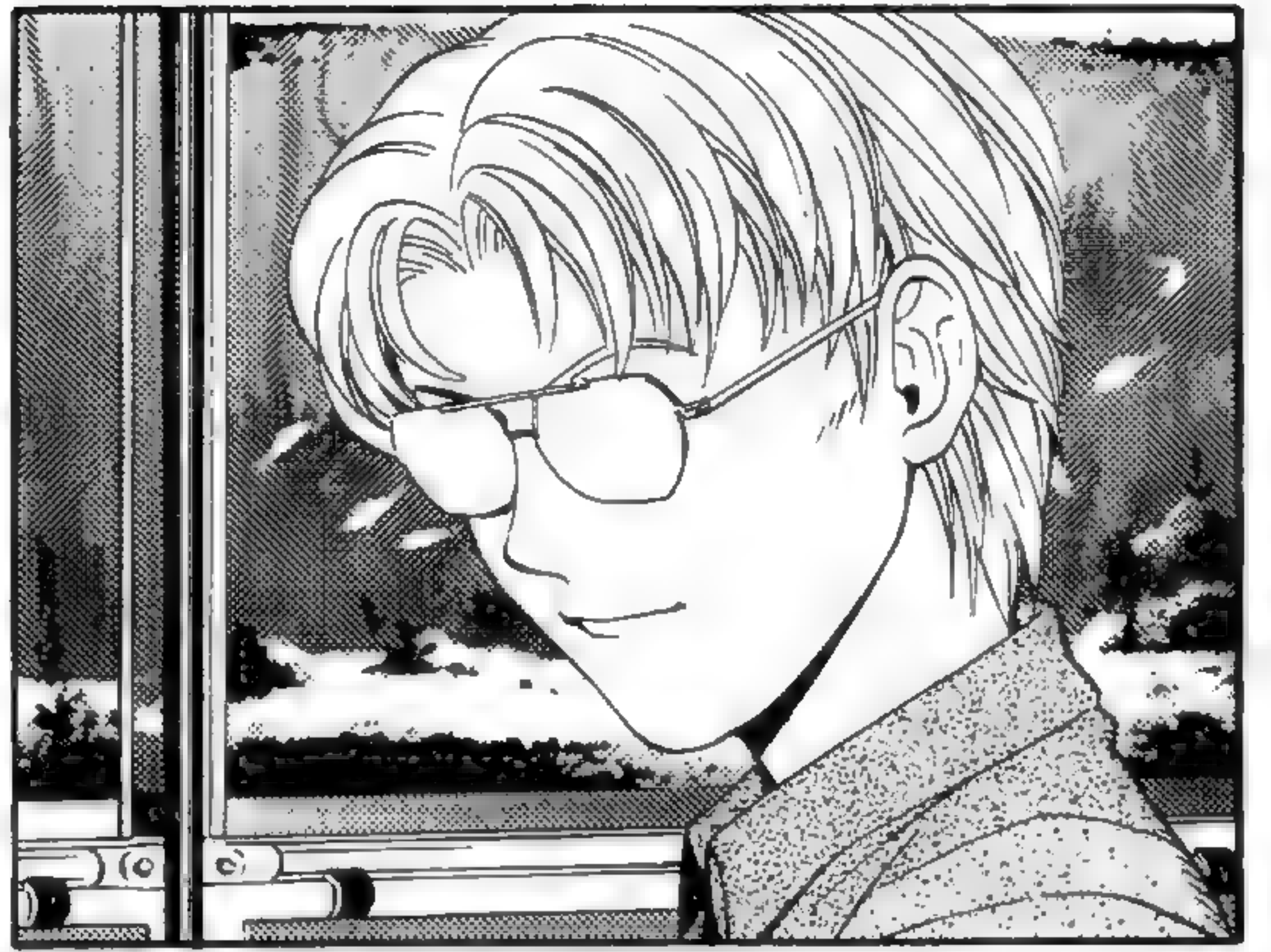
WHY
WERE YOU
LOOKING
FOR ME?

I KNOW
YOU COME
HERE SOME-
TIMES, SO I
THOUGHT
I'D CHECK.



I DIDN'T
GET TO
ASK YOU
SOMETHING.

YOU LEFT THE
YOUNG LIONS
TOURNAMENT
SO QUICKLY.







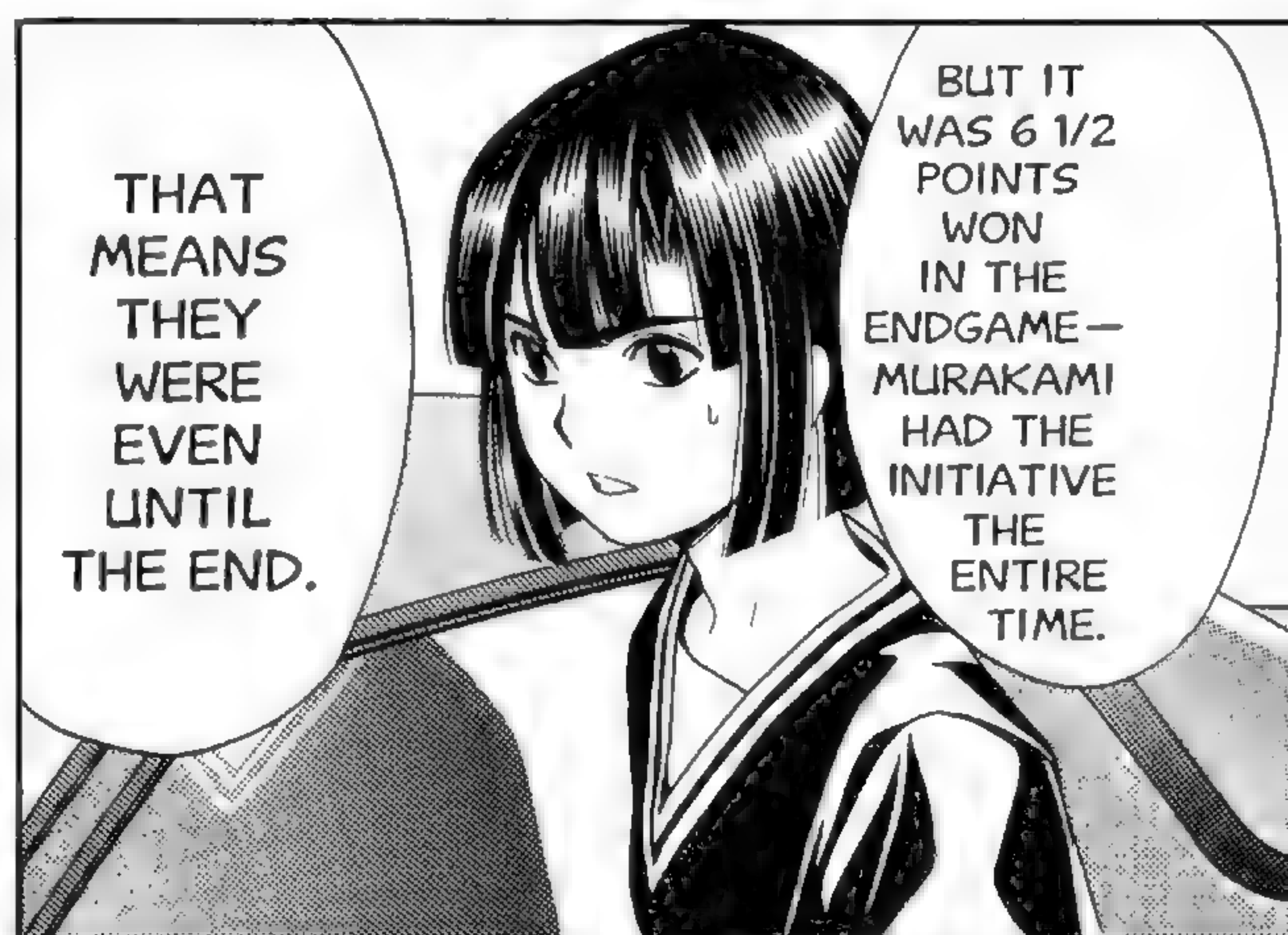
AND YOU
SAW THE
RESULT.
SHINDO
LOST BY 6
1/2 POINTS.

I GOT
THERE ONLY IN
TIME TO SEE
MURAKAMI'S
SKILLFUL
ENDGAME. HE
COMPLETELY
DOMINATED
SHINDO.



PLEASE,
YOU
MUST
TELL ME
WHAT
HAP-
PENED!

IS
SHINDO'S
GAME
STRONG
ENOUGH
THAT HE
CAN
COMPETE
WITH A
PRO?



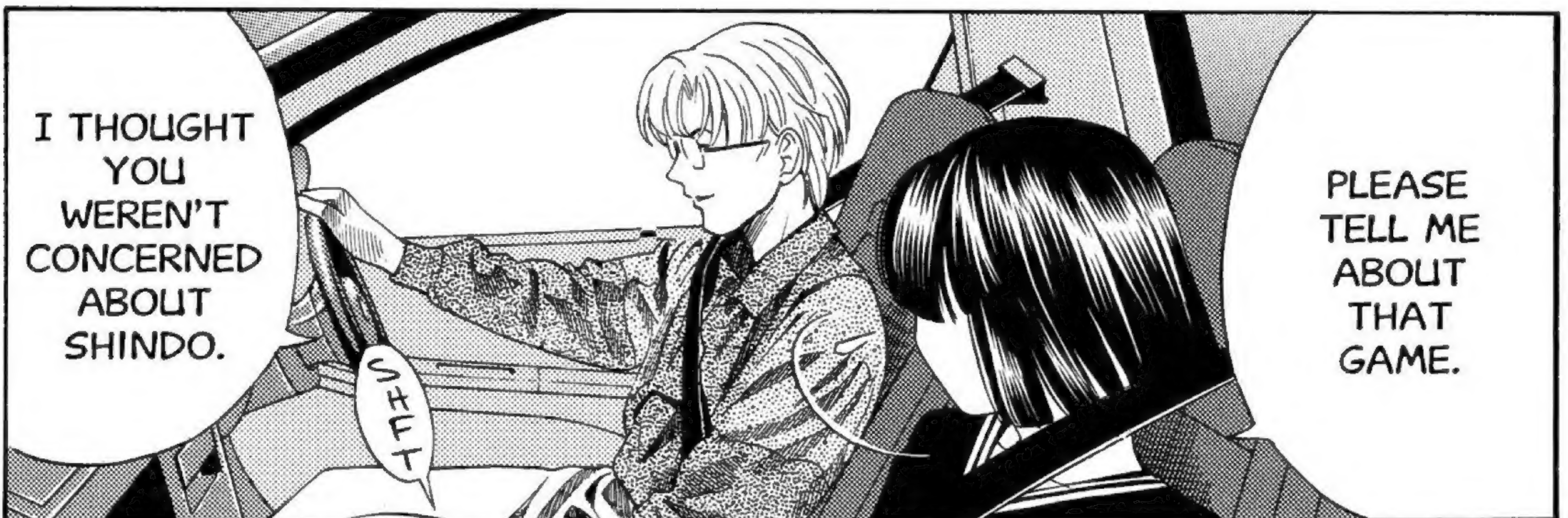
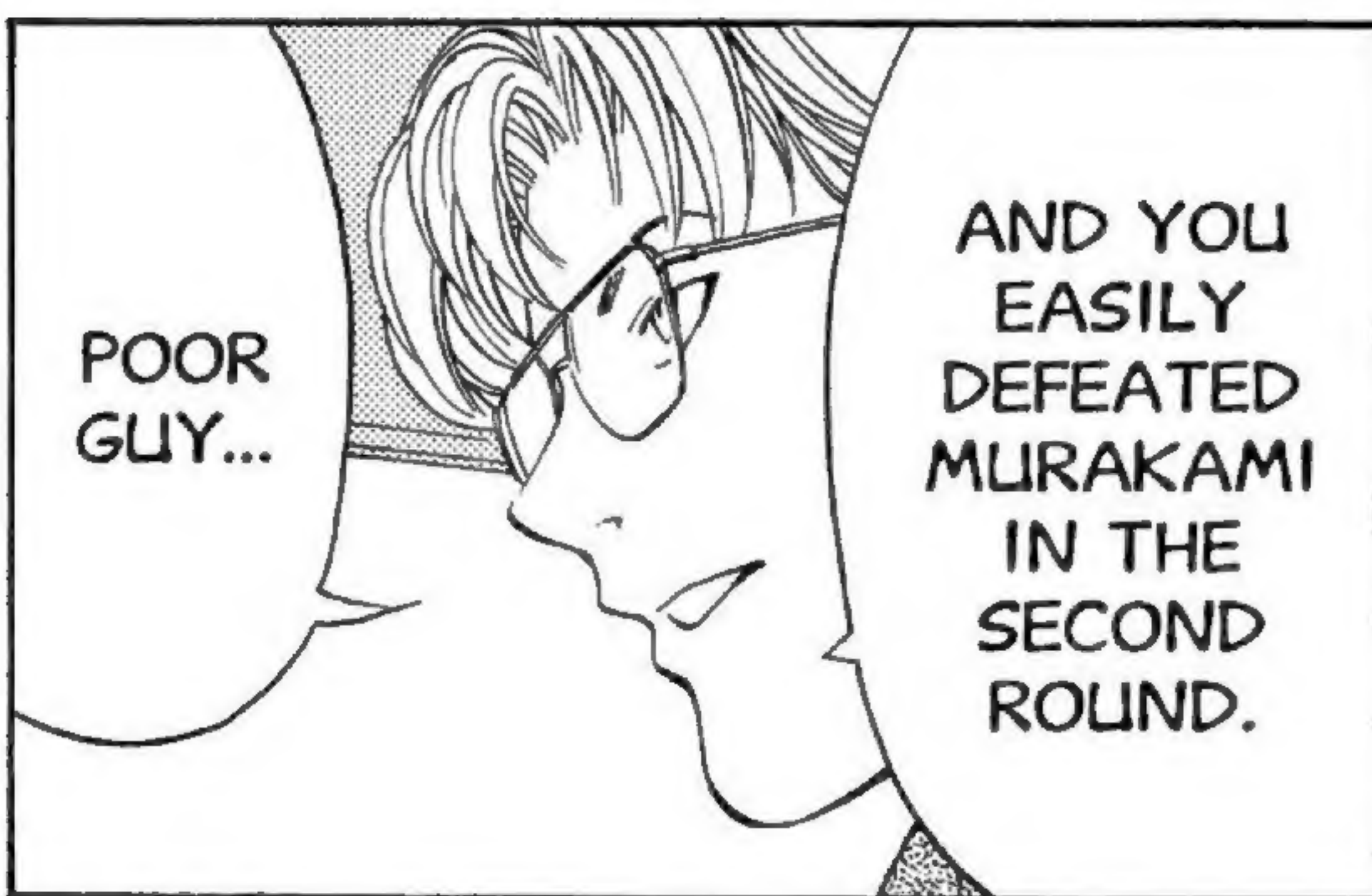
THAT
MEANS
THEY
WERE
EVEN
UNTIL
THE END.

BUT IT
WAS 6 1/2
POINTS
WON
IN THE
ENDGAME—
MURAKAMI
HAD THE
INITIATIVE
THE
ENTIRE
TIME.



SOMETHING
MUST HAVE
HAPPENED.
WHAT EXACTLY
DID SHINDO
DO?

THOSE
UNCONVENTIONAL
SHAPES... I CAN'T
IMAGINE THE
MOVES THAT
LED TO THEM.





The end of "The Young Lions Tournament"

vizMANGA

For more information, visit vizmanga.com